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## Inspiration in War Literature\*

Ethel R. Sawyer, Director Training, Public library, Portland, Oregon

TO lovers of peace there may seem something incongruous in the linking of the two words at the head of this paper. At least such was my first feeling when I was confronted with the task of saying something on the subject. And after my first plunge into the literature of the Great War my feelings as to the impossibility of wedding these two terms with any but the most inharmonious results was not lessened—inspiration is one thing and war, war with its train of horrors is quite another.

But as I read on and sought amid all the records of broken homes, terrified, dumb, dazed fugitives, shattered foundations of civilized society, fruitful lands battle-rent and dehumanized by the sterile hand of War, and human beings stacked and strewn over bleeding battlefields in numbers whose immensity chokes the imagination, even here I finally found the white flowers of inspiration without which all personal life would surely lose even a semblance of sanity and endurableness.

It is of the books in which I found this inspiration that I am asked to speak. For the list which follows I make no claim to completeness nor even that it contains the best of the inspirational literature. I can only offer it with such comments as I have added as to what one reader has to contribute.

### Personal narratives

Bairnsfather, Bruce—Bullets and billets.  
Buswell, Leslie—Ambulance No. 10.  
Empey, A. G.—Over the top.  
Gerald, Paul—The war, Madame...

\*Paper read before the P. N. L. A. meeting in Portland, Sept. 3-5, 1917.

Hall, J. N.—Kitchener's mob.  
Hankey, Donald—Student in arms.  
Hay, Ian—The first hundred thousand.  
Kreisl, Fritz—Four weeks in the trenches.  
McConnell, J. R.—Flying for France with the American escadrille at Verdun.  
Morlae, Edward—Soldier of the Legion.  
Nicolas, René—Campaign diary of a French soldier.  
Seeger, Alan—Letters and diary.

### The "Special correspondent's story"

Cobb, I. S.—Paths of glory.  
Gibbons, H. A.—Paris re-born.  
Irwin, Will—Men, women and war.  
Palmer, Frederick—My first year of the war.  
Palmer, Frederick—My second year of the war.  
Powell, E. A.—Fighting in Flanders.  
Williams, A. R.—In the claws of the German eagle.

### Behind the firing line

Huard, F. W.—My home in the field of honour.  
Kellogg, Charlotte—Women of Belgium—turning tragedy to triumph.  
Masfield, John—Gallipoli.

### Fiction

Fielding-Hall—The field of honour.  
Walpole, Hugh—Dark forest.  
Wells, H. G.—Mr Britling sees it through.

### Constructive inspiration

Bourne, R. S.—Towards an enduring peace.  
Buxton, C. R., ed.—Toward a lasting settlement.  
Dickinson, G. L.—The European anarchy.  
Dickinson, G. L.—War and the way out.  
Fernau, Hermann—Because I am a German.  
Richard, Paul—To the nations.  
Rolland, Romain—Above the battle.

Bairnsfather has given us the best of what humor may be wrenched from this grim business of trench life and while a realization of the facts behind the irresistibly comic "Fragments from France" makes you sometimes check your laughter aghast as at the sound of mirth in a house of mourning, you end by bless-

ing the god of humor whose keen eyes will not be blinded even by this baptism of blood.

Bairnsfather is a machine gunner, wounded in the second battle of Ypres, and from his books we get no battle accounts but through his pictures and his descriptive text we see Tommy Atkins in his less conventional and unpremeditatedly human moments.

"Ambulance No. 10" is an account of the deeds of the ambulance men whose work of relief and self-forgetful service has brought this division of the army well to the fore.

Arthur Guy Empey, "convinced by sixteen years of roughing it," and not by reading, of the justice of the allied cause, enlisted early in the war in a machine gun corps serving in France. His book, "Over the top," is one of the most widely advertised of the war books. It is a real, undressed up account of life in the trenches, with many more of the sickening horrors in it and much less of artistry than Hay's "First hundred thousand," for instance. He shows a sort of unconscious fascination with gory details. He appears to be of the familiar type—a good, sincere, crude fighter. From his story, loyalty and comradeship stand out as the inspiring features; and it seems to embody the simple creed of the fighting man "Over the top with the best of luck and give them hell," with whatever of inspiration there may be in that.

"The war, Madame," is strongly French in tone; it has been described as "a clear exposition of the mood of France." In it we find the strong current of the excitement of war, the child-like indifference to danger, an almost strutting superstitious belief in one's own good fate. "How should it come that I should die?"—I who have so many things to do? And very strongly marked is a sort of intellectual curiosity about Death. Let me quote:

But if we do get hit, all the same, and have a second time to see how wrong we were, and how presumptuous—that does not make us the least bit sore. You take the blow, you are—surprised, and you accept the adventure because they would be only too happy—they over there, the enemy,

Fate, all the elements that knock you out—if they knew that you were groaning or raging. An immense resignation, made up of a lot of pride and a lot of humility, that is what fills the eyes of our men in moments like these: the pride of the individual whose brave soul defies blind forces, and a sense of the futility of our poor human race, with which higher powers make their sport. Death, out there, is never tragical, Mme.

Or this, concerning the reunion which a company held two days after a battle in which several of its members had fallen:

We raised our glasses to the memory of comrades fallen the day before, and even this act was a gay one. Hunger, thirst, exhaustion had given us back simple souls. We had rediscovered the antique conception of death. Three days before we had had a jolly dinner with the men who had been killed; we had caught a glimpse of them in the marching column, above the heads of the soldiers, and then had lost them from sight again when we had deployed on the skirmish line. And if they hadn't come back to us, that seemed to us so simple, so necessary from the point of view of our new life, that we were not even moved by it. Our toast was like the easy handshake of good-bye you give to someone you are glad to have seen again, but from whom you separate without regret, although you are making no new rendezvous because, you see, your life is already so full. . . . We recalled their last adventures. We laughed a good deal. We sketched humorous portraits of them. We did not think about their cold and bloody bodies of that day, but of their clear minds of the day before, and it was their living image that our memories laid out for burial.

"Kitchener's mob" is a graphic and uncensored account of an American volunteer in Kitchener's army.

Hankey's "Student in arms" is a spiritual and philosophical interpretation of the war. It deals with the relations between officers and men, and shows how the finer qualities of the men are called forth under various circumstances. In many respects this seems to me to be the finest, most thoughtful of these books.

"The first hundred thousand" got into the field early and has hardly yet been dislodged from its popular position. There is much of humor and a never flagging anecdotal portrayal of human nature true to type.

If Mr Kreisler's volume were published anonymously and properly censored as to names the reader would peruse it with interest as another account of the loyalty, bravery, and endurance of our allies under the now too-familiar incidents of modern warfare. There is the same excitement, the same devotion, the same testimony to the "levelling" influence of war. There are several arresting stories of the camaraderie between the two armies in the intervals of their deadly work; for instance, the story of the two starving Russians who came under a flag of truce to buy food and departed laden with many tid-bits urged upon them from the hungry Austrians' hoarded supply; and the comic opera bit of the big Russian and the little Austrian who in the amused face of the two armies advanced by tentative steps from their respective trenches and met in the middle of no-man's land—to exchange tobacco.

Of McConnell's "Flying for France," the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh says: "This small book is full of the spirit of these men who have gone into war not as an adventure but because they found an inspiring duty."

Edward Morlae's book rightly understood is a bit of social inspiration, as I read it. The Foreign Legion, as everyone knows, is made up partly of the outcasts of many lands, who could never gain admittance to any regular company, where a man may bury himself, or, if life has nothing more to offer him, where he may fling it away in one last excitement of battle—for the Legion's place is in the front ranks where the fighting is fiercest. Of these men Morlae says that the legion was made up "of adventurers, of criminals, of fugitives from justice. Some of them are drunkards, some thieves, and some with the mark of Cain upon them . . . and yet I am proud of them—proud of having been one of them; very proud of having commanded some of them." Here shone the same loyalty, comradeship, esprit de corps, and a pathetic eagerness to serve France, the sole country which has offered them asylum; the country which has shown them confidence, mothered

them, and placed them on an equal footing with her own sons. Gladly and gayly they went into the hottest of the hell and were almost literally wiped out as a company.

Why should we not draw from this story inspiration for the handling of our social "outcasts" and a suggestion of the saner way of binding them to society through loyalty and gratitude and through giving them a rehabilitating service to render? In the book itself there is too little apparent sensitiveness to the ghastly things he tells, too much of the callous necessities of the slaughterer house.

René Nicolas's "Diary" is "an extraordinary picture of an educated and accomplished man thrown suddenly into a position where elemental qualities of manhood alone are recognized." He was a French university man in the Somme campaign.

Alan Seeger says of himself that he had been an intellectual devotee of Learning, then he had turned passionately to Life with the eager desire to know all experiences—hungry to sense life to the fullest. And he finds that love and strife are "the twin poles about which all nature revolves"; therefore to him strife is an experience not to be neglected but to be sensed to the utmost. There is a great difference in tone between his book and such accounts as Morlae's "Soldier of the legion." Seeger grasps at every possible bit of romance—he is always the ardent, idealistic spirit as contrasted with the mere fighting adventurer.

Standing facing them [the enemy's trenches] from his ramparts the sentinel has ample time for reflection. Alone under the stars, war in its cosmic rather than in its moral aspect reveals itself to him. Regarded from this more abstract plane the question of right and wrong disappears. Peoples war because strife is the law of nature and force the ultimate arbitrament among humanity no less than in the rest of the universe. He is on the side he is fighting for not in the last analysis from ethical motives at all but because destiny has set him in such a constellation. The sense of his responsibility is strong upon him. Playing a part in the life of nations he is taking part in the largest movement his planet allows him.

He thrills with the sense of filling an appointed necessary place in the conflict of hosts, and facing the enemy's crest above which the Great Bear wheels upward to the zenith, he feels with a sublimity of enthusiasm that he has never before known a kind of companionship with the stars.

Never have I regretted doing what I am doing, nor would I at this moment be anywhere else than where I am. I pity the poor civilians who shall never have seen or known the things that we have seen or known. Great as are the pleasures that they are continuing to enjoy and that we have renounced, the sense of being the instrument of Destiny is to me a source of greater satisfaction.

Nothing but good can befall the soldier, so he plays his part well. Come out of the ordeal safe and sound, he has had an experience in the light of which all life thereafter will be three times richer and more beautiful; wounded, he will have the esteem and admiration of all men and the approbation of his own conscience; killed, more than any other man, he can face the unknown without misgiving—that is, so long as Death comes upon him in a moment of courage and enthusiasm, not of faltering or of fear; and that this may, if necessary, be the case, I shall strain all my will the day that it comes round to our turn to go into the furnace. I have a feeling that that day is near at hand.

Speaking of the growing friendliness of the opposing forces on the frontier he says: "The evolution of hostility is naturally toward chivalry, not toward unmitigated ferocity. The hymns of hate, the rancor and vindictiveness are the expressions of non-combatants whose venom has time to accrue in the quiet of studies far from the noise of the cannon. To the actual combatant the sense of the grandeur of his calling is too strong upon him to let such ignoble trivialities intrude. Without striking any the less strongly when the time comes he is yet ready enough to pay tribute to his enemy where tribute is deserved. . . ."

And what more heart-breakingly beautiful and inspiring message to a mother from her son whose sense of duty leads him through this particular tragic gateway to the finding of his soul, than this:

. . . You must not be anxious about my not coming back. The chances are about ten to one that I will. But if I should not, you must be proud like a Spar-

tan mother, and feel that it is your contribution to the triumph of the cause whose righteousness you feel so keenly. Everybody should take part in this struggle which is to have so decisive an effect, not only on the nations engaged, but on all humanity. There should be no neutrals but everyone should bear some part of the burden. If so large a part should fall to your share, you would be in so far superior to other women and should be correspondingly proud. There would be nothing to regret, for I could not have done otherwise than what I did and I think I could not have done better. Death is nothing terrible after all. It may mean something even more wonderful than life. It cannot possibly mean anything worse to the good soldier. So do not be unhappy but no matter what happens walk with your head high and glory in your large share of whatever credit the world may give me. . . .

"The paths of glory lead but to the grave," is Mr Cobb's text. He recounts his experiences with the German army when he and two other newspaper men were caught in the tide of the first advance through Belgium. The book is a good antidote to the large collection of "outrage" stories, calling our attention to the great need of careful authentication before accepting them. Here he shows us the same qualities of bravery, endurance, eagerness for the battle, human kindness, etc., and over all and through all marvelous "efficiency." It is in the style of magazine writing, with relieving touches of humor but infused with a deep hatred of war.

Almost the same might be said of Will Irwin's "Men, women and war," in which in a chapter called "The religion of valour" he gives a keen analysis of the "much mis-applied sense," in the talk of the war enthusiast. A beautiful appreciation of the "Soul of France" and a testimony to the power of "British calm" together with a chapter on the "Splendid story of Ypres" are noteworthy; and while the whole book is full of the tragic horror and pathetic acceptance of it all there are no stories nor hints of outrages. Military reprisals? Yes; but these to Mr Irwin's mind seem only one reason the more to hate all war with its accompanying train of "military necessities."

Mr Powell, as special war correspond-

ent for the *New York World*, was a guest of General von Boehn, destroyer of Louvain, and is said to be the only correspondent who has been able to obtain, from a general's own lips, the standpoint of the German military party in the war. His book also has the distinction of being the only book on the war or the countries at war which appeared on a list compiled from titles handed in by the 12 branch librarians of the Grand Rapids public library, showing the two most popular adult non-fiction books at each branch (see *Bulletin*, June, 1917)—and this title appeared twice.

As special war correspondent in Belgium for the *Outlook*, Mr Williams had many opportunities for acquiring information. In spite of its gruesome title, his book has been called "the most human book of this most inhuman war." I should like to express the same idea in slightly different words and call it the most humanizing book; that is, it stirs those rationalized emotions which distinguish human from brute natures—desire for truth, justice, slowness to condemn and act—as contrasted with such largely emotionalizing books as Roosevelt's "Fear God and take your own part." It inflames no national hatreds, but it makes you hate that international monster—war. There is in it something about spy-terrors, officialdom, faked war photos, even romance, and for atrocities he cites as the greatest, the "atrocities" to the soul of man in *making* him fight. He speaks of this war as "a monument to the human will." We must deplore the sanguinary ends to which it has been bent, but "we must marvel at the grim tenacity with which it has held to its goal through the long red years." In the end he challenges us to the greater task of reconciliation and to the understanding and eradication of the corroding hatred between nations.

During the great retreat from Paris, Mme. Huard remained in her home on the "Field of honor" and has given us a very good idea of civilian flight before an invading army. Here is revealed a fine type of American woman—brave, resourceful, controlled, fair.

"Women of Belgium" has in it the great inspiration of a tremendous constructive achievement being carried on upon the very theatre of destruction itself. The work of the women in the Belgian cantines and relief stations, the caring for the host of children, training the women and the man-wreckage of war to useful trades, which may serve as a backbone of industry after the war, is truly of the nature of the greatest work of the world—"turning tragedy to triumph." The forward-looking of it all is most inspiring.

If all the books that this war has called forth should be entirely destroyed, I question whether the cause of letters would greatly suffer. But at least one book we could ill afford to lose as a piece of literature. Masfeld's "Gallipoli" is to me not so much a book of this war, or a book of any war, as it is an epic of devotion to a foredoomed cause, a hymn of praise to loyal, brave men whose lives are to them as a grain of dust in value if only they may "carry on" till the end. Listen:

It was a day of the unmatchable clear Aegean spring; Samothrace and Euboea were stretched out in the sunset like giants watching the chess, waiting, it seemed, almost like human things as they had waited for the fall of Troy and the bale-fires of Agamemnon. Those watchers saw the dotted order of our advance stretching across the Peninsula, moving slowly forward, and halting and withering away, among fields of flowers of spring and the young corn that would never come to harvest. They saw the hump of Achi Baba flicker and burn and roll up to heaven in a swathe of blackness, and multitudinous brightness changing the face of the earth, and the dots of our line still coming, still moving forward, and halting and withering away, but still moving up among the flashes and the darkness, more men, and yet more men, from the fields of sacred France, from the darkness of Senegal, from sheep-runs at the ends of the earth, from blue-gum-forests, and sunny islands, places of horses and good fellows, from Irish pastures and glens, and from many a Scotch and English city and village and quiet farm; they went on and they went on, up ridges blazing with explosion into the darkness of death. Sometimes, as the light failed, and peak after peak that had been burning against the sky, grew rigid as the colour faded, the darkness of the great blasts hid sections of the line,

but when the darkness cleared they were still there, line after line of dots, still more, still moving forward and halting and withering away, and others coming, and halting and withering away, and others following, as though those lines were not flesh and blood and breaking nerve but some tide of the sea coming in waves that fell yet advanced, that broke a little further, and gained some yard in breaking, and were then followed, and slowly grew, that halted and seemed to wither, and then gathered and went on, till night covered those moving dots, and the great slope was nothing but a blackness spangled with the flashes of awful fire.

What can be said of that advance? The French were on the right, the Twenty-ninth Division on the left, some Australians and New Zealanders (brought down from Anzac) in support. It was their thirteenth day of continual battle, and who will ever write the story of even one half hour of that thirteenth day? Who will ever know one hundredth part of the deeds of heroism done in them, by platoons and sections and private soldiers, who offered their lives without a thought to help some other part of the line, who went out to cut wire, or brought up water and ammunition, or cheered on some bleeding remnant of a regiment, halting on that hill of death, and kept their faces to the shrapnel and the never ceasing pelt of bullets, as long as they had strength to go and light to see? They brought the line forward from a quarter of a mile to six hundred yards further into the Peninsula; they dug in after dark on the line they had won, and for the next thirty-six hours they stood to arms to beat back the charges of the Turks who felt themselves threatened at the heart.

Our army had won their hold upon the Peninsula. On the body of a dead Turk officer was a letter written the night before to his wife, a tender letter, filled mostly with personal matters. In it was the phrase, "These British are the finest fighters in the world. We have chosen the wrong friends."

Before devotion like that the world bows its head and is silent.

To the above list there are doubtless many books which might be added. Perhaps among the most notable to be brought forward since this list was first compiled are Dawson's "Carry on"; Victor Chapman's "Letters"; Powell's "Brothers in arms"; the "Letters of a soldier of France to his mother"; and two French books which come to us very highly praised, Barbusse's "Under fire," which the A. L. A. Booklist calls "one of the most notable war books in

France"; and Le Goffic's "Dixmude," of which the reviews would lead us to believe that it is a second "Gallipoli."

One common truth the reading of these books must strongly impress upon us, and that is the universal, never-dying human need for exaltation, for inspiration. Men cannot go on indefinitely on a technically perfect, monotonously geared, smooth-running level of machine-like progress no matter how efficient. We still have souls and they must have their natural food of inspiration, as truly as our bodies demand physical nourishment and our minds intellectual fare. We demand an ideal—an absorbing, gripping, *exhausting* ideal to which to give ourselves absolutely.

Peace has failed—not because of any inherent weakness in peace itself but because we who say we love peace have failed to put into it and its struggles the emotionally stirring idealism which some men find in war. We have allowed peace to become weak and flaccid and quiescent under violations and outrages as terrible as any against which brave men go forth to fight. We who hate war must learn from war how to make peace take hold of men with the gripping intensity which war now has. Let us look again at the outstanding qualities portrayed in all these books—bravery; valor; a bright young eagerness to do and die for "the cause"; a fine high courage such as Seeger voices in "I have a rendezvous with Death"; loyalty; comradeship; fortitude, a total absence of complaint either at physical hardships or at personal losses—the *silence* of great suffering, the quieting of all petty human crying in the absorption of an ideal *which seems worthy of this self-denial*; gratitude and willingness to repay, surely a fine antidote to the commercial doctrine of give as little as possible and get all you can—read Brooke's "The soldier."

Modern war may be good training for regenerative, social work, if we can keep it tuned up to its finest note. It is demanding qualities different from those of the old story-book soldier—more patience, resignation, *comprehending sacri-*

fice for an abstract thing, sympathy and better judgment of the other side as men much like ourselves. There seems to be little hatred of one's opponents in the trenches. Simonds in "They shall not pass," says a soldier's duty is "to stand, to hold, to die not in the onrush but *on the spot*." In this same book very clearly brought out is another new development—a growing sense of war as a machine-made thing.

Five miles with hardly a break of 100 feet between trucks. Paris buses, turned into vehicles to bear fresh meat; new motor trucks built to carry 35 men and traveling in companies, regiments, brigades; wagons from the hoods of which soldiers, bound to replace the killed and wounded of yesterday, looked down upon you, calmly but unsmilingly. From St. Diziers to Verdun the impression was of that of the machinery by which logs are carried to the saw in a mill. You felt unconsciously, yet unmistakably, that you were looking, not upon automobiles, not upon separate trucks, but upon some vast and intricate system of belts and benches that were steadily, swiftly, surely carrying all this vast material, carrying men and munitions and supplies, everything human and inanimate, to that vast grinding mill which was beyond the hills, the crushing machine which worked with equal remorselessness upon men and upon things.

This sort of thing will fall of its own weight—men must have glory, and romance, and opportunities for personal valor to keep them at this uncivilized, undemocratic business of killing—the human consciousness is becoming too growingly avaricious of the vital principle of Life as opposed to the sterile wastefulness of Death to consent indefinitely to become logs rolling to the saw pit. War is grown grey and barren with its dreary trench life and its ceaseless artillery duels, as lacking in inspirational dash and as nerve-wracking as some of the social struggles this present cataclysm has interrupted—a dull, aching, hanging-on with little or no show of results. Let us seize for peace the passing glory of olden war—fill its infinite problems with the color, the noise and the trappings of romantic conflict; the human appeal to courage, to loyalty, to self-sacrifice, to fellowship, to solidarity for a common cause, unity for a common aim, march-

ing together. Alan Seeger says in his "Letters" that he was "never in better health, never felt my manhood more keenly." Why? Because he was using the best of the manhood in him. Give the finest manhood a chance in peace. In the trenches now they are fighting to end war. War, in itself, is no longer a tolerable thing.

Inspiration would seem to be of at least two kinds: emotional, which is the most common, the deepest seated, possessed of all the accumulated power of ancestral inheritance—and it is of as many varieties and values as the emotions themselves. The books so far mentioned have chiefly this kind of inspiration, varying from the crude, uncomplex emotion that moves the simple fighting man like Empey or Morlae, to the fine idealism of Seeger and the rather spiritual appeal of Hankey. But there is also the possibility of intellectual inspiration, rarer, more loosely attached, and possessing relatively a much weaker influence as it has very little of the ancestral urge behind it and for this reason needing all the more the fostering care of "intellectuals." It is this sort of inspiration that I get from the last division of books to which I have given the not entirely satisfactory heading "constructive inspiration."

As to what these men, so unjustly called traitors by some ill-advised persons, are trying to do let us hear in the words of one of their own number. Romain Rolland, engaged in the work of the International agency for prisoners of war, wrote in Switzerland his book, "Above the battle." It has not found a welcome in his native France, but many of the chapters have appeared in the *Journal de Genève* and some have been published in England. He says: "A great nation assailed by war has not only its frontiers to protect: it must also protect its good sense. It must protect itself from the hallucinations, injustices, and follies which the plague has let loose." He sees it as his mission to uphold the ideals of brotherhood that national hatreds and jealousies have broken down. "I know that such thoughts have little chance of being heard today," he

says. "Moreover I do not speak to convince it [Europe]. I speak but to solace my conscience—and I know that at the same time I shall solace the hearts of thousands of others who, in all countries, cannot or dare not speak themselves."

I would point out that these men are showing the same wonderful qualities that are the glory of the best soldiers in the field today: bravery, loyalty to what is to them the highest ideal they know, fortitude, patience, the sinking of self in "the cause," and in addition they are working with none of the great stimulus of glory, or victory, and without the inestimable comfort of comradeship and popular praise. Valiant leaders of a forlorn hope they are trying to turn men's minds away from the bloody, senseless arbitrament of war to the slower, harder settlement of the nations' wrongs by justice, honesty, truth-telling and mutual concessions as between brothers. I have called their writings books of constructive inspiration because, if, as so many of the best of the first class of books would lead us to hope, the soldier himself desires to slay war, then these books give us the psychology of war's long appeal to mankind and they will help us to incorporate the fine, strong, impelling elements of that appeal into a more intelligent, rational, idealistic, inspiring peace.

### College Library Efficiency Tests

In his book, *Self-surveys by colleges and universities* (1917, World Book Co., Yonkers, N. Y., and Chicago, \$3), William H. Allen includes the following efficiency tests for college and university libraries (pages 244-6):

In his report for 1916 President Butler suggests that college libraries exist not for themselves or for any direct relation to students but to facilitate the work of college departments. He further suggests that students might profitably be given courses in the use of libraries,—as is done by many small colleges. These suggestions prompt questions for surveyors:

1. Who determines what books shall go into the college library and on what conditions books may go out; i. e., how far are these decisions matters of initiative by faculty, of conference between librarian and faculty, or of decision by the librarian alone?

2. What determines the amount of money available to the library? Of the total how much goes for current journals? How much to new books? How much for postage in order to secure matter for free distribution? How much for research sources? Are library appropriations budgeted? Are fines enforced?

3. What proportion of the total library expenditure is for instructional purposes and what proportion for faculty or graduate research?

4. What steps does the library take to call attention of faculties to live matter and helpful suggestions which come in current journals or in library reviews?

5. Is it permitted to clip out of magazines for topical filing any matter considered helpful by instructors? (Note in the text, by Dr. A. D. Yocum, of the University of Pennsylvania, a collaborator: Owing to the necessity for permanent and unmutated files of periodicals, shouldn't your question take the following form: "Are extra copies of periodicals provided from which clippings may be made?")

6. What rules govern use of books and magazines by students? Do they encourage library patronage? Is service prompt? Is it agreeable? Is it competent? Is it happy? Is it interested?

7. Is it easy to have books come to places where students and faculty gather or must students and faculty go to a central place where books are stored?

8. In what ways is the librarian notified of respective demands for books by different courses?

9. In what ways are librarian and staff enlisted in helping students learn how to study, how to use reference works, and how to digest materials?

10. What complaints or suggestions have the faculty with respect to the central library and departmental libraries? How complete is the file of official reports for the city and state where the college is located; for colleges, particularly those of similar size and program; for learned societies, educational and professional conventions; for civic agencies; for the United States Bureau of Education and other departments, etc.; i. e., is it recognized that books are a decade or generation behind current reports?

11. Does the library equipment make efficiency easy? Are there enough bulletin boards? Are they conveniently placed? Are they used? Is the lighting adequate? May students go to the shelves? Are documents most used that are nearest?

## Qualifications of the Teacher in the Library School

W. E. Henry, Director, University of Washington library school, Seattle

UNTIL now I had assumed that all had been said upon it that needed to be said and that standards had been fixed. It appears, however, that the library school idea has presupposed a teacher and that is about as far as our pedagogical interest has gone.

I recall that one of our good library schools did offer a course for the preparation of teachers and I was delighted that such an attempt was being made, but so far as I can discover that effort has made little impression. I trust, however, that the attempt will not be discontinued, for the greatest need of every teaching institution is better teaching.

When we have established our library schools the teacher seems to have been assumed. That has been true in many teaching institutions and it has always proved a mistaken assumption. One of the very prominent and successful librarians of our country who has had opportunity to observe at first hand the teaching in all the library schools in the country said to me that the greatest defect in all these schools is poor teaching. Knowing so well as I do the opportunities and the judicial sanity of the man who made this statement, I have been interested in similar statements from other sources. Some of the most prominent graduates from the best of our library schools have said referring to certain courses: "That course should have been one of the most useful and inspiring courses, but instead it was *deadly dull*." The explanation has usually come that the teacher had no ability to teach, no power of inspiration, could not adequately present the information that was intended for the student, not adequately direct the effort of the student. Sometimes one of these defects, often more than one was urged as the cause for the failure. I think I have never heard the accusation made that the teacher did not know the subject. The defect in library school teaching, then, is akin to most of

the poor teaching that is done in other teaching institutions. All of us who have finished a college curriculum readily recognize that the outstanding defect of every college and university is inefficient teaching rather than inadequate scholarship. In fact, it has not been an unusual experience to find the poorest teaching done by persons of fine and extensive scholarship.

Qualifications for efficient teaching then, fall into two classes, knowledge of the subject and ability to teach. Of course, it is unthinkable that any one should teach well whose knowledge is inadequate. However, this is no more inconceivable than that everyone who has knowledge can teach. Many of our able scholars are so totally innocent of teaching ability that they do not even recognize that there is a teaching problem. Many who would proudly acknowledge teaching as their profession would admit that they had not studied teaching (their profession, mind you) an hour in their career. Their interest is merely a subject interest and not a teaching interest. Some of these persons are instinctively great teachers without asking how or why, but genius or instinctive ability in teaching as in other lines is very sparingly distributed and few have it. Teaching power, however, may be acquired by many through a careful interested study, and teaching interest and ability may go hand in hand with scholarship. However, a teacher must know much more than he attempts to teach, else his teaching falls far short of success.

The essential qualities and qualifications of any teacher of any subject in any type of institution are not less than the following:

1. A knowledge in detail of the subject matter, to be taught, and a comprehensive understanding of the relation of this detail to all other subjects upon which the student is working in related lines. He must see also that the detail

upon which he is instructing is not an end but a detail of means to a much larger and more significant end—the purpose of the student's life activity. This point must be especially clear in the mind of the teacher in the professional school.

2. As already implied in 1, the teacher must be possessed of an intense human interest in his subject as distinct from mere subject interest as knowledge. He must see the particular subject being taught not as isolated, but as a part of the student's life, a tool in the student's hand, as a source of power, as a means of life. In the professional school, especially, he must see the subject as applied in service and as an inspiration for life itself. With this attitude of mind on the part of the teacher we have no dead subject, no uninspiring teacher, no subject concerning which the student will wonder why it is in the curriculum.

3. The teacher in order to be efficient after possessing the qualifications and qualities as in 1 and 2, must have the power to organize the materials of his subject. He must set them forth in such manner that the student may see clearly not only the facts necessary, but that he may get the relations and organization of the facts. This organization set up in his own mental imagery will at once and forever enable him to see it as a part of the essential equipment through which he may realize his professional ideals. I cannot think of a student in librarianship getting any degree of mastery of classification, cataloging, reference, book selection, or any other subject of the library school without at the same time seeing and appreciating the organic relation of such subject to all others and to his professional service in a library. This the efficient teacher will see that the student gets.

4. And last in this series comes that essential quality of a good teacher which many may acquire and but few have by nature—the power to inspire—the power to create a hunger and a desire upon the part of the student to master knowledge, the delight in organizing knowledge, and the intense desire to use the knowledge gained and organized. One with this

power whether acquired or by nature possessed can become a great teacher. Without it no one can teach. He may draw a teachers' salary and meet classes but he cannot teach. Every student knows such a person cannot teach. The student does not usually see why the teacher and the subject are "deadly dull," but he is not usually mistaken as to the fact.

Some persons have by nature, as has been said, great teaching power, but we cannot man our schools with such persons—there are not enough of them. The greatest *teacher* that I ever had—David Starr Jordan—once had a contempt for schools whose mission it was to prepare persons to teach. He possessed such power of organization and presentation that he could not understand why all did not have it.

While I have dealt here with qualities and qualifications that are demanded in every school where good teaching is desired, I have, of course, been thinking of them in their specific relation to the library school and those who read this will doubtless think of them in the same relation.

In the library school as in all professional schools, all knowledge and all organization are at once applied to a specific end—the profession, so in addition to the four points true of all teaching, I want to urge two points of special significance in teaching in a professional school.

1. The teacher in the library school must do his work in such manner and with such spirit that the student, already possessing high regard for library service, must grow into an infinite belief in and respect for such educational and social service as the library can render better than any other institution.

2. The scope of the teaching must be such that the student will before the completion of the curriculum have such an organic grasp of it all, that he comprehends and has an enthusiasm for the work of the library and to him it becomes a profession.

The most important duty then of the director of a library school is the selection of a teaching staff—to gather around

him a group of people who regard library service as a profession and who can teach.

It is always difficult to secure good teachers for a professional school for the best persons in the profession are much more attracted to service in the profession than to teaching others. No great soldier wants to be confined to the work of a drill master. The great lawyers and the great physicians do not give their time exclusively to teaching in their professional schools, but may be willing to give lectures occasionally on a phase of the subject.

I have no doubt that we shall find our best teachers in library science are among those who insist upon giving most of their time to actual practice in the profession, but are willing to give part time service to teaching. This complicates to a degree the selection of teachers, but all professional schools insist that their teachers keep in close touch with actual practice. I should not want it otherwise, but there is no incongruity in a good librarian being also a good teacher.

In the library school it is not true "That those who can do, those who can't teach."

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### Food

Every American organization or institution must do its utmost in the great food campaign that is on in our country. There is no argument in the matter. But the first duty of every institution is to ascertain its own legitimate field of operation; for overlapping efforts are often injurious to the cause. The library's first duty in the solving of this difficult problem is to provide and make available to its constituency adequate and authoritative literature on the subject. There is much else that it can do, but this is what it must first do and do with pitiless conscientiousness. This is hardly a day of side-issues. The world is pretty much of a one-ring show and success will come in greatest measure to him who knows definitely which is his part and devotes himself wholeheartedly to it.—*Evanston Bulletin*.

### Old Books

We noted in Mr. Thayer's report for the J. G. White collection, the fact that the A. L. A. is getting up a list of books in American libraries printed before 1500. He reports one such in the collection. We have another: The chronicles of Eusebius, published in 1483.

Some years ago after hearing a series of lectures on the printed book by Prof. Root, my ambition was sufficiently aroused to make a list of books in the public library, printed in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.

We have nine from the 16th century, 78 from the 17th century, 285 from the 18th century. Most of them are probably not of great value from a money standpoint, though they may be some day. They are of great interest, however.

Needless to say such a pursuit would not be likely to be undertaken nowadays in the rush of our 20th century work. It is something we are glad to have done, however, and only a few weeks ago it was of much interest to a certain book lover who spends much time in the library hunting old books.

I think that most of the books are actually the old editions, not reprints, though we have in the collection some curious examples of that sort. The identifying of old and rare volumes is a very pleasant pursuit and one that we frequently undertake to do for people, usually, however, resulting in disappointment to them, as they feel that because a book is published in the 15th or 16th century it is exceedingly rare and that its sale should bring them thousands of dollars.—*Staff News Bulletin*, Cleveland public library.

The President and Mrs Wilson were among the early subscribers to the war service library. As each dollar contributed represents a book, each book purchased by the money contributed will be autographed either by the President or Mrs Wilson. It is probable that each soldier or sailor receiving such a book will have to be reminded that it is overdue.

## The Camp Lewis Library\*

J. T. Jennings, librarian, Public library, Seattle

THE horrors of war we can neither escape nor forget. That our finest young men are preparing to enter a conflict from which many will never return is a thought that oppresses each of us. The suffering of the women and children of Belgium is perhaps a still more striking illustration of the terrible side of war. This dark side is so present in our thoughts that we are apt to forget the cloud's silver lining. War has many bright sides. In the present conflict we are on the right side fighting for humanity and justice with no material ends in view. With our Allies we must ultimately win and all mankind will be the gainers through the saving of democracy and the probable elimination of war. This is its brightest side but there are also many incidental features that cheer the heart. A few months ago we sent thousands of young men into officers' training camps. They were fine young fellows but some were slouchy in carriage, others unkempt in appearance, and many were unacquainted with anything resembling discipline. I think you must all have noticed with amazement the change in these same men. They came back well-groomed and well-disciplined, erect and alert. This is one of the results of military training and I think you will agree that to instill those things into a million young men is no small gain to a nation.

We hear a great deal about the ravages of disease in the army, but these same diseases are rampant in civil life. The difference lies in the fact that in the army they are systematically discovered and treated. I think this is worth while.

In this country we were fast approaching a division of the classes that boded ill for the future. I believe this war will indefinitely postpone the in-

ternal conflict that seemed to be coming. War creates a brotherhood of man both in the ranks and among the stay-at-homes that will I believe prevent such a conflict, at least for a generation or two. This, too, is worth while. Let me illustrate this point. A few days ago in one of the companies there was a call for a private who thoroughly understood an automobile. To qualify meant a promotion. One private had volunteered and was being questioned by the Captain. Farther down the line another private stepped out from the ranks and saluted. When given an opportunity to speak, he said simply, "I can vouch for him, sir. He was my chauffeur."

Another bright side of war is the opportunity it gives each individual to do his bit. Some call for patriotic service comes to every man, woman and child and Americans are responding bravely to the call. This means the creation of a nation of loyal and patriotic citizens. This call to service came to us as librarians and we shall try to tell here something of the results.

The preparation of a modern army means more than drilling and equipment. These two matters are being cared for by our government on a scale and with a thoroughness unprecedented in history. But in addition to these very evident needs, an army to be efficient needs many things that make for contentment among the men. Entertainment, recreation, and educational opportunities contribute their share towards improving the morale of the troops. Realizing this, the American Library Association has undertaken the task of providing books for soldiers and sailors wherever assembled.

War against Germany was declared by the United States in March, 1917. In June the American Library Association at its annual conference held in

\*Read at meeting of Puget Sound library club at Camp Lewis, Dec. 28, 1917.

Louisville, Kentucky, devoted a major portion of its time to the subject of Library war service and appointed a general committee with many subcommittees to proceed with the preparation and execution of plans for adequate library service to soldiers and sailors. In August came an *official* request from the Secretary of War *asking* the American Library Association to undertake this library war service and suggesting that it be done in coöperation with the other agencies and activities already coördinated under the Fosdick Commission. In September and October the Finance subcommittee of the American Library Association War Service Committee conducted a national campaign to raise a million dollar fund to finance the undertaking. This amount was over-subscribed and a million and a half dollars were secured. Here in the Northwest we have all had the satisfaction of raising our full share of that fund.

The money subscribed is being used for buildings, books, salaries and maintenance expenses. Approximately \$300,000 will be used in erecting library buildings in the 32 large camps. The building at Camp Lewis is finished and was opened for use on November 28. This building is located near the general headquarters building, opposite the theatre and just west of the First Brigade. It is a one-story building 120' x 40' in size. It contains at one end sleeping quarters and bath for the men on the regular library force. The remainder of the building is one large room equipped with shelving for 12,000 volumes and with 11 reading tables, 200 chairs, and the necessary map racks, magazine racks, delivery desk, book trucks, etc.

I have never enjoyed any experience so much as this brief period at Camp Lewis. Being appointed as library organizer for this camp, I came to Camp Lewis on October 24. The contract for the building had been let from Washington to a local company. After some search, this contract was located on one of their desks and we were able

to prove to them that it *was* a contract. It was then necessary to secure a construction order from Colonel Stone, the Constructing quartermaster, and a location for the building from General Greene. These matters occupied some two or three days and we then thought that work could proceed, but the contractor informed us that it would take two or three weeks to get the lumber. Interviews with General Greene and Colonel Stone saved this delay, however, as they gave permission to use government lumber, replacing it later from our own order. Work began the next day with a force of 28 carpenters, and the building rose like a small boy's balloon. When it was half finished, the specifications came from Washington. Up to that time we had been working from the blue prints only. However, no serious blunders had been made, and much time had been saved. In many ways the building is better than the specifications called for. The plans and specifications, for instance, directed that the building paper be placed directly on the frame and that the exterior siding be then put on. What we actually did was first to cover the frame with ship-lap and then apply the building paper and siding. This makes a stronger and warmer building and the additional expense was not great.

Another change was the installation of ventilating dampers in the roof. The plans called merely for open spaces at the ventilaing ridge. These would, to be sure, have given adequate ventilation but would also have adequately removed all the heat that our two handsome stoves could generate. At our request the foreman installed wooden dampers similar to those used in the hospital wards. These dampers save the heat but they can be opened in summer to cool the building. I do not think they have been opened yet. Several other minor changes were also made in the building.

You may be interested to know that by having the furniture made locally of fir we saved money. This money

saving was in some ways unfortunate. An organization of Tacoma ladies had undertaken the worthy work of providing window curtains and flower pots for the library building. When they learned, however, from a chance remark of mine that money had been saved on furniture, dissension arose in their ranks and our very attractive scheme fell through. We were obliged to buy our own curtains. This experience made me feel a good deal like the man condemned to be hung. As he stepped on the gallows he was asked if he had anything to say. "No," he said, "except that it certainly has taught me a lesson." Another time, if another time ever comes, I will say less about savings and more about additional expenses.

If we could do the work all over and get authority to make certain changes, I think we could greatly improve the building.

Our chief criticism is that the building is too small, at least for Camp Lewis, and should have a large work room, approximately 20 x 40 feet, at the rear of the building. If the funds permit, and the work continues, I think it may still be advisable to construct such an addition to the Camp Lewis library. The suggestion to provide a work room in the present building by a re-arrangement of the book-cases would not be satisfactory, at least at Camp Lewis, because the main room is already crowded.

The contractors and all the construction men who had anything to do with the building at Camp Lewis thought that the posts were unnecessary. They claim that steel or iron plates on the joints of the trusses as in the theatre building would have made the roof strong enough to carry any snow load. The architect, Mr. Tilton, of course did not know that in this country we can get truss timbers forty feet long.

The sliding windows are a nuisance, chiefly because they won't slide. We think they should be on hinges opening out as was done in the Y. W. C. A. hostess house.

The stoves are tremendous and ugly and occupy the most prominent places in the room. I believe it advisable in any future buildings to install a small steam heating plant of the kind adopted for officers' quarters. The elimination of the posts and stoves, and the addition of an adequate work room would greatly improve the interior appearance of the building and facilitate the work of the library.

We had the contractor put a ceiling over one of the sleeping rooms and also over the small lobby where the hot water heater is installed. This adds to the comfort and seclusion of those rooms and I am sorry now that we did not also install a ceiling over the other sleeping room.

Under the show windows are two spaces that we equipped with shelves and doors in order that they may be used for storage of cards and stationery.

We think that the outside of the building would have been greatly improved by the use of rough finish siding and wider eaves or roof projections. Both of these were used in the hostess house which is a much more attractive building than our library building.

The books now in use are nearly all donations and a fine lot they are, too, numbering about 25,000 volumes. These have come largely from Portland, Seattle and Tacoma, where splendid work has been done in securing and preparing the donated books. Of course these are largely fiction, but that is because fiction is what most people read and therefore it is what most of the men want. Some titles are duplicated many times but these can be used in the branches. For instance, there is a whole shelf full of "Freckles" and forty copies of "Black Rock."

A few first editions have appeared. Mr Castle is very keen in catching these and they will be sold and the money used for other books. We have first editions, for instance, of some of O. Henry's books and one of Mark Twain's "Jumping Frog."

Other books are being purchased to supplement and round out the collection. We secured authority to purchase books here up to \$2,000. Others are coming in from the East.

The preparation of the books has been made as simple as possible. We have used the Dewey classification to three figures. Fiction has no mark. Individual biography is B. Each book has a book-plate, a book-pocket and a book card. Our only records are the charging system and a shelf list.

The Central library being located at one end of the camp is of course inaccessible to a great many of the men. While some reading and some lending of books will be done at the Central library its chief use will be as an administrative center from which branches will be organized and operated.

I think you may be interested in hearing about the traveling library scheme that we have worked out for the camp library. Its general merit is the saving of work.

For the Central library collection we found it necessary to make a shelf list in order to assign copy numbers and in that way distinguish each book from every other book in the library and prevent any confusion in the charging system. We are using the following scheme, however, in some of the barrack collections:

Small traveling library bookcases have been made, in some instances by the library, and in some instances by the men in the regiments. These cases have two shelves holding a total of 50 volumes. Each bookcase has two doors and the case serves not only as a shipping case between the central library and the barracks but as a bookcase when in the barracks.

On the inside front cover of each book assigned to these traveling library cases we place a rubber stamp impression, reading:

American Library Association.

Camp Lewis Library.

Traveling Collection No. —.

Book No. —.

These traveling collections are fixed, that is, the books in each traveling library will remain in that case so long as they are used at Camp Lewis. Each collection has a number and the books in each collection are numbered from 1 to 50. With each traveling collection we send a small blank book containing 50 numbered pages. This is used as a charging book by the man detailed in each company to look after the library. On page 1 of the book he charges the various issues of book No. 1 from his collection. The remaining pages are used in a similar way for the other books. This makes it unnecessary to write author and title at the tops of the pages of the charging book.

On the inside of one of the doors of the bookcase is pasted a typewritten list of the 50 volumes comprising the collection. This list is arranged alphabetically by author and since the books are alphabetized before being numbered, the list is also in numerical order. A duplicate of this typewritten list is retained at the central library and receipted for by the company commander.

The books in each collection are all duplicates of books in the central library. Each collection has 40 volumes of fiction and 10 of non-fiction. The collections in one regiment are differentiated as much as possible in order that monthly transfers may be made among the companies in one regiment.

Using books in this way saves classifying, book-plating, book-pocketing, book-carding, and shelf-listing. There is nothing inside the book except the rubber stamp on the inside of the front cover. The saving in work will be tremendous and we can see no reason why the plan will not work satisfactorily. If we find that it does work, books can be sent to us from various cities without any preparation whatever.

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Training is everything. The peach was once a bitter almond; cauliflower is nothing but cabbage with a college education.—*Mark Twain.*

Subscription - - - - - \$2 a year Single number - - - - - 25 cents  
Five copies to one library - - - \$8 a year Foreign subscriptions - - - - \$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

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## Growing Apace

THE development of the public library is one of the most continuous sources of interesting speculation that publicists meet in the present time.

The members of the older generation have not become accustomed to the activities of the modern library and it is almost beyond their comprehension that the libraries have progressed beyond the time of the ladies of Cranford, and that those of that class, who formerly ran the library, have given way to the present race of modern, educated,

trained women and men. But occasionally, remarks are heard that show a growing knowledge of the views of organized library service. Clinton Rogers Woodruff recently said: "In all this trend and urge, the public library has become an established fact in practically every modern city and all within the present generation. It has developed with the times from a static, individualistic collection of interesting and polite literature to an essential dynamic community instrument of power and useful information."

## Where Is One Needed Most?

REPORTS from over the country show quite an extensive withdrawal of library workers from the service of the public libraries, in those who are answering the call for help of the various government departments at Washington, D. C. It is a delicate question to discuss when the Government needs help in this critical time. There is a disposition on the part of anyone able, on receiving a call for help, to say "Here am I; take me." At the same time, there is a serious question as to whether, when it comes to the need of serving the country, a trained, experienced librarian, in charge of a live public library touching

all the interests of the community, educational, inspirational and recreational, is not rendering more needed service than he could give by going into a clerical position in the departments at Washington. The departure of such a one means that the work in the library is handicapped by the introduction of new people, oftentimes untrained and always unacquainted with the duties to be met. When it comes to a question of training for new routine work it will be very much easier in a little while to become an adept in the work that needs to be done at Washington City than it is to meet the many-sided obligations that belong in public

libraries where experience as well as training is the paramount requisite to efficient work.

The librarians in the smaller towns are apt to think that life would be much more interesting in the nation's capital than in the community in which they serve at present. They will find that with the demand on them for service there will be little time left in which to see from the outside the interesting things that undoubtedly are going on. Living conditions and expenses in Washington are much more of a problem than anywhere else in the country at this time. The few dollars difference in salary that are offered in no wise makes up for the higher cost in living. If these things are likely to make a difference with the newcomer

in Washington City he will, undoubtedly be able to render better national service and patriotic endeavor in his own community than he will in strange quarters, far from the things that make up some of his daily interests. There are so many things that can be done in conservation of many kinds, in Red Cross, in national defense, in secret service work throughout the country—there is so much service that the library can render in all these things and which only a trained person can do thoroughly and effectively, that there is a feeling of regret in many instances when the one who is the main spring of the local library in its work gives up in answer to the call for departmental service at Washington.

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### Watch the Book List

Considerable discussion is appearing in newspapers over the country in reference to Boy Scout books which have been discovered to contain German propaganda, especially those which offer excuses for the treatment of the Belgians by the Germans. Librarians will do well to heed the warning issued by F. K. Mathiews, Chief Boy Scout librarian. Yet one can hardly think that books containing the quotations cited in a number of instances could have passed the critical eye of those whose business it is to choose books for public libraries. Perhaps the greatest value of Mr Mathiews' caution to librarians will be, to arm them further with arguments against the promiscuous buying of children's books from uncensored bargain tables in department stores. The fallacy that has been pointed out many times of uninformed persons thinking that a book that has a board cover on it is necessarily better

than one with a paper cover, lives over, doubtless, from the days of "dime novels." Many times these books with bright colored covers, catchy titles, selling for from 10 to 30 cents, are not one whit better than the penny dreadfuls to be found on the news stands at city street corners.

The term, Boy Scout, has been used many times with what in no case merits the approval of the Boy Scout authorities and Mr Mathiews is doing a valuable service in calling attention to the erroneous notion that the term, Boy Scout, everywhere, deserves confidence. The Boy Scout movement and the hearty approval of it have been taken advantage of in many instances by those who are indifferent to results other than the filling of their own pockets. Librarians will continue to read carefully the books that do not carry definite recommendation by recognized authority.

### A. L. A. War Service Headquarters

A VISIT to A. L. A. War Service quarters in Library of Congress at Washington reveals a busy hive. Expert specialists, clerks, typists, messengers, are all intent on the piles of papers, letters, orders, and cards on the score of desks which are placed in every available space. Telephone calls, telegraph boys, occasional visitors and new assistants enliven the steady push which one feels in the atmosphere of the place. Good light, fresh air, beautiful environment add to the pleasure which seems to animate everyone in what he is doing. The Director General appears at first one place and then at another, converses for a few mo-

ments with one or another of his assistants with that smile that seems to express confidence and the cheery nod that finishes the conference as with an O. K.

With the prodigious labors to be performed in getting the million and half books it is proposed to send where they are needed, there is an utter absence of anything in the atmosphere at Headquarters that betokens slack or weariness or indifference to the demands of the occasion. One feels in the midst of that group, that things are moving, that one can trust and await results in confidence that they will arrive.

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### The March Book Campaign

An intensive campaign for the purpose of interesting the public in the collecting and giving of books to the camp libraries is to be carried on during the week of March 18. It is proposed that all libraries shall take part in this campaign and, by the enthusiasm engendered and the information distributed about the needs and effect of the books it is hoped that an unceasing interest will be created to the extent that the public will continue to send books for the soldiers both at home and abroad as long as they are needed.

A point that is made by those in charge is that people should be induced to send the books to the libraries direct and not try to send them to the soldiers personally. There is more assurance that the books will reach those for whom they are intended through library handling than to send them direct.

Local libraries are also urged to take charge of the nearby camps so far as magazines are concerned. The sizable libraries throughout the country would do a good work by interesting college

girls or high school students in securing books, subscriptions to magazines and donations of current periodicals for the purpose of sending them through the libraries to the camps. School girls and boys will be glad to be formed into committees to solicit gifts of magazines every week or every month, as the case may be, calling for them and delivering them to the library which will, in turn, send them to the local camp. This will simplify matters greatly and will also give the young people a feeling of being of assistance which will be helpful in more ways than one.

Attention is called by the Library War Service to the great need for Baedekers on Western Europe. These are wanted in many camps by the Intelligence offices and by the camp libraries as helps in reference work.

Librarians are asked to report promptly to the War Service as they have books ready for shipment but which have not been ordered out. The need at present is very great at several points. Assistance is desired as far as possible.

## In the Letter Box

## The Dial

Dear PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I wonder if the librarians generally are aware how *The Dial* is improved and growing more so? It has a snap about it that is most attractive. It has a number of new contributors, men who know from serious study and investigations what they are doing and are broad and generous in their treatment of the literary spirit of the day. I hope librarians of all people are not missing this, it is exactly what they have been talking about for so long—the spirit of books.

Chicago.

W. B. PARKER.

## A Note

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The January *Bulletin of the New York Public Library* contains another of that library's valuable and timely bibliographical contributions, namely a list of references on Submarines, compiled by Mary Ethel Jameson of the Science division. It is preceded by a brief, appreciative foreword by Mr Simon Lake. He tells how he some years ago spent many days in several libraries in order to get information which then was nearly unprocurable, but which Miss Jameson's list has placed at every investigator's disposal. Her perseverance is plainly shown in her work—but when it comes to the technical side of cataloging she does not seem to be able to think beyond the strict cataloging rules. For instance, "Herodotus. Book VIII, Uramia (In his: Herodotus translated, etc.)." As if Herodotus had written a work called "Herodotus." Similarly "Aristotelis Problematum sectio xxxii. (In his: Aristotelis operum, etc.)." And *operum* without the following *tomus* (or *tomvs*?)—here plainly the editor of publications has been asleep! To call Olaus Magnus "bishop of Upsala" is incorrect in two ways: first, he was named *archbishop* by the pope in succession of his brother, Johannes Magnus,

but as there already was at that time a protestant archbishop in Upsala, the appointment remained on paper. He never served in that capacity. In this connection it is curious to find that the New York public library does not have the magnificent edition of the "*Historia de gentibus septentrionalibus*" which is being published by Dr Isak Collijn and associates, giving the original Latin text, accompanied by a modern Swedish translation.

## Library Reports

My Dear Editor: I have just been going over a lot of library reports and I have some things in mind which I thought I might turn over to you and you might turn them over to the proper authorities. Who are the proper authorities? I don't know, but there ought to be some. The American Library Institute might have a discussion of library reports. The library is shown to the public through its reports, and they are certainly very bad, but there ought to be some conclusion as to what is desirable in these reports.

It should be a discussion of some interest; for instance, as to whether a report presented to the public should be a composite or departmental report, or whether the departments should each be allowed to present to the public their reports signed. It seems to me that this is a very bad form of report generally—that the departmental reports should go to the librarian and the librarian should make a composite report to the public. Who, except the librarian, is going to read through a great number of departmental reports, and who cares to get the personality of the department head?

Oughtn't the reports to be shorter? I notice that a few of the librarians, possibly those that belong to the Institute, say that paper and printing costs a great deal of money now, therefore

reports are cut short. They omit everything which would be of any interest. One would think their institutions had not accomplished anything of any significance or that they had not stood for anything in the community, and then they give page upon page of statistics which nobody could interpret. How many of these statistical tables ought to go into the reports without interpretation?

Then some libraries, who apparently have nothing else to report, tell about buying a new desk for the librarian's office or remodeling a desk. It doesn't seem to me that anyone ought to go into print with such trivial details about public institutions.

I looked for salary schedules in vain in most reports. I found very interesting information concerning salaries in the Chicago report, but in very few others. Then I noticed that most libraries did not make any use of graphs though the graphic method of presenting facts is very commonly used in other reports. I don't know whether it is desirable, but certainly it would be interesting to discuss it.

Reading 50 or 60 library reports at a time is pretty tiring business and I was most grateful to Mr Stevens of Pratt institute for using language not found in all the reports. I thought that if I had been clever enough I could have made a composite report, taking a sentence here and there from those fifty or sixty and no one would have been able to detect any individuality in the composite or to tell from which report I had taken certain paragraphs, even certain whole sections—they were so much alike. Mr Stevens departed from the usual vocabulary and had a very interesting report, I thought.

Can't we get librarians who are at the head of things to present facts in a more interesting way to the public? It seems to me that this is fundamental in getting people interested in libraries and appreciating their value.

Yours expectantly,

LIBRARIAN.

### Camp Librarians

Dear PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Thank you for giving space to the word of the women librarians. The men head the list in everything civilian and now they get the bomb proof libraries.

Can't something be done to put in skilled women and let those unskilled men go out and drill and fight as they ought to?

READY.

\* \* \* \*

To the Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I am writing in reply to your request printed in the February number of P. L. for an opinion in regard to news from Camp Libraries. I think there is no question but what all those who helped in the collection of money and books for the A. L. A. are interested in the manner in which the A. L. A. is doing its work. And I think all the different sides of the work should be represented in the items you print.

First: The activities of the central organization at A. L. A. Headquarters in Washington. The Camp librarians have a chance to see how this work is growing and being perfected, and can report upon it from their point of view, although this may not be necessary in view of the universal confidence in Dr Putnam.

Second: The library methods used in the different camps. To give the most satisfactory service the librarians have to get down to rock-bottom essentials, and forget a great many of the schemes which are taught in library schools.

Third: The kinds of books the men read. These are much the same as those read by men in civil life, for the drafted army is a true cross-section of American life. Naturally there is emphasis upon books dealing with the life the men are engaged in and interested in, and this brings a class of books on military and naval tactics and engineering which is all out of proportion to the number of those books required to fill the demand in an ordinary public library. There is also a chance to answer

the question of how much difference there is between the reading of men and women, and possibly to discover how the public library can appeal to the man in civil life.

Fourth: The personal experiences of the A. L. A. workers in the camps and the difficulties and delays under which they work, would make an interesting chapter in American library history, and I think an important one. The library workers in the camps will be better librarians after they have had the experiences, just as the drafted men will be better citizens and better workers after the war is over. If the camp librarians could write good accounts of such experiences, would it not be profitable to print them for the benefit of the many who would like to have the same experiences, but who cannot get them at first hand?

The camp librarians already have their hands full in the camps with the long hours, physical and mental activities, and required reports to headquarters. However, if they can have some assurance that the letters sent for publication in library periodicals will be of service to the men in other camps, as well as to librarians not in camp, they will not begrudge the time they are asked to spend on them.

RAYMOND L. WALKLEY.

Camp Grant, Ill.

\* \* \* \*

Regarding the opinion of the camp library worker who doesn't "feel greatly tempted to enlarge upon the work" (PUBLIC LIBRARIES, February, 1918, page 74):

I sympathize only with his feeling that this is not an occasion for personal autobiography or glorification. Publicity never should be that. Nor is this the occasion for an evident desire to glorify the A. L. A., although the A. L. A. will receive its just credit.

But the war is the greatest thing of the age. If we are sure of our calling in times of peace, if books have a unique power to soothe and instruct and inspire the citizen,—then how

great is the challenge to us when the citizen becomes soldier! It is a supreme test of our skill in assembling books and ministering through them to men.

The work therefore calls for the best the library profession has, both without and within the camps. Vast new problems confront the worker within—problems of adaptation of methods to materials, to time, to military necessity, to the intense moods of men. Your camp worker needs the best thought and coöperation of the profession outside. How is he to get it except by frequent reports—intimate, revealing reports?

Moreover, if we do a good job of this, the future of library work will be different. These three millions of men are going to run things when peace comes. No one can convince me that the next generation will be unappreciative of personal cleanliness, sanitation, and regular habits. Nor will the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., and like welfare organizations lack appreciation of their efficient and indispensable service in time of stress. What is to be the attitude of these millions toward organized library service? We are making the answer during these months. How is the profession to put its "all" into the service unless information is full and free?

This camp library work is bringing new vision to the men who are engaged in it. If we can keep our biggest men and women in the work, as I believe we should, here are some of the things which I think we shall discover:

1. We must be better knowers of people. We have fed people fiction when they wanted poetry or science or drama. We have insisted upon giving them history or philosophy when they needed fun or fancy.

2. We must have more faith in books. Books are more potent in themselves, without any interference on our part, than we are wont to admit. We have believed too much in "administration." Our part is to get the book and man together without either of

them knowing it,—which is a subtle feat of common sense.

3. We must know "time and tide" better. Educationally and physically, the preparation of our armies is revealing unknown possibilities in intensive training. So with the use of books, in peace times as in war. We must know our man, our book, and the "tide" as never before.

4. We must know better and more humbly that books are fundamental, necessary, indispensable.

5. We must have more joy in our work. It must be more evident to those we serve. The response will be instant and spontaneous and mutually helpful.

If our camp library service is to be intelligent, sympathetic, prompt, and fundamentally human, it will require every bit of library talent and facility and unselfish coöperation. The reward will come both now and in the future, mainly in the joy of increased opportunity for necessary democratic service and in public appreciation of that service. We cannot know too much about this development, either from the outside in, or from the inside out.

Because of the supreme opportunity, and because such service is necessarily highly specialized, I feel a keen personal regret that the A. L. A. is not to carry its work by its own workers right to the firing line. We are stopping short of our highest service.

WILLIS H. KERR,  
Camp Librarian.

Camp Funston, Kans.

### Free Distribution

A limited supply of "Diplomatic correspondence respecting the war, published by the French Government," (English text), has been put at the disposal of the Committee on Public Information. Until the supply is exhausted, libraries not having the volume may receive it on request addressed to C. D. Lee, Committee on Public Information, 8 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

### Duped

Miss Jessamine Ward of the Plumb Memorial library, Shelton, Conn., writes the story of an unfortunate transaction with the Library Bulletin Co., with whom she had been doing business for some time. According to Miss Ward, they secured advertisements for the *Library Bulletin* for 1917 without expense to the Library and then, collecting from the advertisers, they failed to print the *Bulletin*. Their present address is unknown, a letter to Newark, N. J., having been returned unclaimed. Any librarian who knows the whereabouts of the members of the firm (Dyer by name) will confer a favor by communicating with Miss Ward.

### Library Examination

The California board of library examiners is making arrangements to hold an examination in June for those persons who desire to qualify for the position of County librarian in California. One of the members of the board states that if there are any eastern librarians who are in California at that time who choose to do so, they may avail themselves of the opportunity to qualify for the work.

### Attention!

**Librarians:** What are you doing to help save enough food to send to our soldiers? One thing you can do. Ask every preacher of every creed in your town to read to his congregation once on every Sunday the fine ethical doctrines set forth in every number of *Food* issued. Pages 9 to 16 in *Bulletin* No. 5, February, 1918, contain as much spiritual aid as any one could ask or indeed would get from any sermon of the day.

Life itself is a fight. Our enemies are inertia, selfishness, and the love of ease and pleasure. To overcome these enemies requires the fighting attitude. When a man ceases to fight he is a dead one.

### War Time Service

We have heard so much of our war duties that I am afraid this title may in itself scare off readers but there is still one side of the question I have not seen discussed.

We know all about the stern obligations of this dreadful time; we know we must collect books for the soldiers and money galore, we must help sell Liberty bonds and Red Cross seals, we must help Hoover save the wheat and Garfield save the coal, we must discourage the public's taste for travel on our overburdened railroads, we must keep everybody up to the minute in war news, but isn't it time somebody considered the lighter privileges?

Was there ever a year when the need of cheer and comfort was so great? Can the libraries do nothing to lighten the load, to make a weary world smile if only for a minute? While we pass out recipes for war bread and eggless cake with one hand cannot we pass a funny story with the other with a clear conscience? I see some one in your December issue advocates buying no new fiction during the war—I say buy all the cheerful fiction you can find and keep it moving.

When people are using oleomargarine for butter, fish for meat, corn for wheat and nothing for sugar, when they are denying themselves new clothes, anniversary giving, theaters, concerts and even "movies," when sons and brothers no longer come home at six o'clock, and the shadow of the future darkens every sunrise, surely there is need as never before of diversion, of amusement.

Here is a wide field for the library. Let it provide free entertainments, free talks by anybody who has been anywhere, free lectures by one who knows a little more of something than his neighbors, free concerts if only by the boys and girls, and above all free "picture shows." These latter can be had either with a stereopticon or a reflectoscope. The former demands glass slides which are not always obtainable

but for the latter any good magazine illustration or postal card will do. The National Geographic is a mine of wealth. Any library can get duplicate copies from its friends and there is hardly a country into which delightful excursions cannot be made with its assistance.

With a radiopticon costing \$27.50 and no other expense whatever this library gave a series of picture entertainments on Saturday afternoons last winter which were attended in all by sixteen hundred people (our hall seats one hundred). And this is a town which hates lectures! There was no charge for admission or departure. It was the library's contribution to the enrichment of life in a small, cold, isolated city where diversions are mostly limited to moving-pictures and church benefits. It was a joy to see the orderly, quiet crowd which assembled week after week. Of course children were in the majority but men and women were not few in numbers.

That the circulation incidentally grew beyond all former records is not the point. The point I am making is that the libraries could do no better work in these distressing days than to cheer, to distract, to comfort.

Let there be one place in town where people without pocket-books are welcome. I would allow no soliciting within the library walls; there are plenty of other places for the sale of bonds, stamps, seals and tickets. Let the library be "a refuge from the storm" and will any one say we are unpatriotic?

MARY K. HASBROUCK.  
Ogdensburg, N. Y.

Every paper published in Ohio and western Pennsylvania was asked that five complimentary copies of each issue of the paper be sent for the use of the men at Camp Sherman. The response was the heartiest possible and for over two months 300 dailies and as many semi-weeklies and weeklies have arrived at Camp Sherman. What this has meant to the men can not be described.

### A Devoted Servant

Middlefield, Connecticut,  
January 28, 1918.

Mrs Gertrude L. Hart, for nearly 24 years librarian of the Public library, Durham, Connecticut, died on January 16, 1918, in the sixty-eighth year of her age.

Though a very busy woman, she gave her services for nearly 20 years without remuneration, to the library.

This labor of love meant two afternoons and one evening a week throughout the year, during most of these years of service to her beloved townspeople.

In 1896, she was elected librarian to succeed the devoted Miss Mary J. Camp, who resigned on account of ill health. The collection of about 200 volumes and its additions were housed, first in The Town Hall, later, in a room in the Center school building until 1902, when a fine new brick and brownstone structure was built from funds given by friends, former townspeople, subscriptions large and small.

The selection of books was a matter of much solicitude to Mrs Hart. Her love for the children led her to desire only the best. Her love for older people that they have healthful diversion and broad enlightenment.

The library under her care grew to more than 6,000 volumes.

The influence of her wise direction and unselfish devotion to this "public" library, is the finest memorial her friends could desire, or her own gentle, deeply religious nature, trained in the Methodist church of her native town, could have aspired to receive.

Mrs Hart was for many years a member of the Connecticut library association.

MARY E. LYMAN.

Every particle of progress that has ever been made has been the product of individuals who have love for their work and who by loving their work have climbed above the mass, and by climbing themselves have developed power to stand.—*James Logan.*

### The Widow's Mite

The will of Sarah A. Cochrane, for 22 years head cataloger of the Public library, Detroit, who died July 10, 1917, bequeaths \$150 to that library. It was found that the money had been accumulated through the long stretch of years and represented the estate of the retired library employee. During the last three years of her active connection with the library, Miss Cochrane drew only \$1,000 a year salary. Before that her salary was several hundred dollars smaller. The printed catalog of the Detroit library published in the early 80's is Miss Cochrane's enduring monument. Her gift represents a rich legacy of high inspiration to the institution to which it was bequeathed.

### A Fortunate Location of a Library

A letter from Emily H. Cartwright, librarian of the Public library, Oregon, Illinois, tells of the great good fortune of her library in being situated in the well known artists' colony located there. The library is often favored by having first exhibits of the work of the artists, of the specially good work that is done in the colony. A recent bit of work is a portrait of Dr Thomas C. Chamberlin, who occupies the chair of geology of the University of Chicago. Last year Mr Clarkson gave the Oregon public the privilege of viewing a portrait by him of Professor R. D. Salisbury also of the University of Chicago faculty. Lorado Taft, Oliver Dennett Grover and others have given similar exhibits.

### Food Substitution

Substitutes are in demand! Food scarcity will not yield to indifference!

The wheat we export from now on will be the direct amount that the people save out of their bread, for we have shipped our surplus. This means literally that everyone who saves a slice of bread is giving a slice of bread to our allies.—*Herbert Hoover.*

### Libraries in Alaska

A committee of the Pacific Northwest library association made up of J. T. Jennings, Seattle, John B. Kaiser, Tacoma, and Miss Lucia Haley, Portland, has been investigating on libraries in Alaska, for the association since April, 1917, and it made a report at the recent meeting of the association. The main facts of the report are as follows:

No definite results were achieved—merely a report of progress. The committee gathered information regarding the distribution of population. They found the population for 1910 by the Federal census to have been 64,356, of which 36,400 were white; 25,331 were Indians and the remaining 2,635 were Chinese, Japanese, Negroes and others. The census estimate made for 1916 gives 64,834, a very slight increase. There were in 1910, 11 incorporated towns with a population of 16,504. Skagway showed a drop in population from 3,177 in 1900 to 872 in 1910. Nome dropped from 12,480 to 2,600 in the same period.

The following library items have been secured from various sources: Anchorage—A part of lot 5 was reserved by the government for library purposes. Cordova—A club house library. Douglas—The Treadwell club has a library. Fairbanks—A Christian Science reading room. The Thomas memorial library endowed by the Episcopal church, Mrs J. A. Cambridge, librarian. Juneau—Alaskan historical library and museum, not wholly available for public use. It is a designated depository for United States documents. A law of June 6, 1900, provides that fees collected by the secretary of the district shall be kept as a library fund. Expenditures from this fund for 1914-15-16 were only \$689. On June 30, 1916, the fund on hand was \$10,205, and it is the hope that the capitol building will be erected at Juneau, which will give quarters for a library. There is also a public library at Juneau, Margaret D. Green, librarian. The city appropriation for 1917 was \$2,100. There are 2,600 volumes on the shelf and the circulation for 1916 is reported as 70,706. This would seem as if there

had been 43 loans for each inhabitant, according to the Federal census. Ketchikan public library, 2,000 v., Mrs Julia Thompson, librarian. Nome—There are two club libraries. Valdez, public library. One or two other fugitive references to other Alaskan libraries may be met.

The Seattle public library for several years has been sending partly worn books to various places. Among others the United States Coast guard and United States Revenue Cutter service. These books are left at small places on the return trip. A plan for traveling libraries for Alaska has been frequently discussed. Miss Green of Juneau has pointed out several times the great need for this. The long winter nights make reading more than a necessity. It is a vocation. Any scrap of paper with reading matter on it is eagerly seized.

The Oregon state library sends books to teachers who have gone to Alaska, who previously borrowed books from the Oregon state library. The committee expressed its opinion that what Alaska needs, first of all, is legislation to firmly establish its present territorial library at Juneau with sufficient funds to make its resources available to all the public and, second, to start a traveling library system in Alaska. As to the law under which this could be done, the library maintenance appropriation and a library law would probably come more appropriately by territorial legislation, while the Federal building to house the library and other departments would be provided by an appropriation by Congress.

While some of the authorities in Alaska think that a traveling library system would be impracticable on account of expense and great distance, the committee is of the opinion that where men can go and supplies can be transported, books may be taken. The ordinary system of traveling libraries might need changing to fit Alaska needs. Small package libraries sent by book post might be a solution and all postmasters might be drafted into service to act as branch librarians. Many similar difficulties have been overcome by the traveling library department of British Columbia.

### Camp Library News

One of the interesting features of the letters from the different camp libraries is the continued intelligence that this, that and the other library was the first to do one or the other commendable things. Camp Lewis is reported from various sources to have been the first to open its library building, though Mr Wheeler is quite sure that Camp Sheridan, Montgomery, Ala., was six days ahead of Camp Lewis.

Such rivalry is wholesome and hurts nobody but the statistician.

Camp Sherman had the first fire-place and now everybody wants a fire-place. Camp Logan is the first library with a show window. Mr M. G. Wyer has placed books in the window next to the entrance indicating the variety of reading on the shelves. This library also has rocking chairs around its hearth fire.

Letters from Headquarters contain the following news of the personal side of the official staff.

A meeting of the camp librarians in the south-eastern group of camps is to be held at Atlanta, February 28 under conduct of Mr Milam, assistant to the General Director. This will be continued into a meeting of representatives of various camp agencies called by the Commission on camp activities for the day following.

The chairman of the War Service committee in company with the General Director is to make a round of various of those camps and the former of others in the mid-west early in March.

Mr William H. Brett, librarian of Cleveland, after visiting certain camps is expected at Washington February 23, to organize the Dispatch office at Newport News and service to the camps in that vicinity.

Among those who have recently joined the War Service staff at the Library of Congress headquarters are Caroline F. Webster, of the New York

state library, Laura Smith, of the Cincinnati public library and Burton E. Stevenson, of the Chillicothe public library.

Miss Caroline Webster, at headquarters, is giving special attention to the opportunities for women in the service.

Miss Laura Smith is in charge of the files of orders. Mr Stevenson is the head of publicity.

Miss Alice S. Tyler, director of the Library school of Western Reserve university, has been given leave of absence for one month (from Feb. 25) for Library War Service work under the direction of the A. L. A. committee. She has been assigned to cooperate with Mr Asa Don Dickinson who is in charge of the work of the A. L. A. Dispatch office, 119 Hudson street, Hoboken, N. J., where the books are prepared and forwarded to the transports and for overseas use.

A cable from Dr Raney, February 2, announced his arrival in England, and one received a few days later reported that he was about to start for France.

### What remains to be done

Half a million books are still required to meet the actual needs of men in the 34 large camps.

Another half million are needed immediately for the military forts, posts and small camps; for the naval stations and vessels; for the marine corps training stations and barracks.

And for the men on transports and overseas there is need for an almost unlimited supply.

For every man in service there ought to be a book in service. That means at least a million more books at once. And books wear out in use. They must be replaced frequently.

Hundreds of thousands will be purchased; but every dollar available for purchases is needed for the sort of books that cannot be expected as gifts.

Therefore:

Hundreds of thousands must be obtained as gifts.

WILL YOU HELP?

**Camp Custer, Mich.**

One feature of our recent work has been the supplying of material for officers to read aloud to their men. Opportunity for this has been created by the severe weather and the rather extensive quarantines that have been necessary, both of which served to keep the soldiers in barracks an unusual portion of the time. The titles called for have been books on the causes underlying the war, books of personal experiences in the war, together with histories and biographies relating thrilling or heroic experiences in other wars, the Civil war in particular. In this connection it is interesting to see that the book of personal experiences in this war, such as "Private Peat," or "A Yankee in the trenches," is in much greater demand among the soldiers than accounts of the observations of war correspondents.

A recent division memorandum, issued by command of General Parker, calls the attention of all officers and men in the division to the benefit to be derived from the use of the library. This memorandum goes to every unit in the division, and after being read to the men is placed on the bulletin board of each organization. Its issuance has had a specially noticeable effect in bringing to the library larger numbers of officers, many of them voluntarily, some of them directly at the suggestion of their superior officers.

The Liberty theater adjoins the library, and we keep open each night there is a performance (which is practically every evening), until we have served the after-theater crowds. This frequently makes a distinct addition to the day's circulation; it does not involve especially late hours, as all performances begin at seven o'clock.

J. S. CLEAVINGER.

**Camp Greene, N. C.**

The library building was opened to the public on January 8. As only a part of the furniture had arrived there was no formal ceremony dedicating the building. On New Year's day the 50th U. S. Infantry held a regimental service in the building which served to introduce the library and the librarian to their nearest neighbors.

Three thousand volumes received from Boston just prior to the opening of the building and five thousand from Chicago, which arrived soon after, stocked the shelves very well. About a thousand volumes were moved over from the temporary quarters, most of which had come from Ann Arbor. To date but very few of the purchased books have reached the library.

The building still has an unfurnished appearance as the tables have been lost in the freight congestion. It is being used at a satisfactory rate in spite of this lack. A quarantine on the city of Charlotte has stimulated the attendance in good weather

but even when the roads were knee deep in mud the average daily circulation was 178.

F. L. T. GOODRICH.

**Camp Johnson, Fla.**

Recently books were drawn continuously at the rate of one every minute between 6:30 and 9:30 o'clock. This does not take into consideration the soldiers who visited the library merely to read, and not to withdraw books.

The greatest demand is for the Manual for the Quartermaster corps, of which the library has only four sets—eight v. Fifty more sets are ordered, however. The manual is used principally by the men seeking to qualify for commissioned offices.

Half the boys who enter the library call for technical books. There is no demand for the Bible, though copies are taken from the shelves and read.

The library is in active charge of Walter C. Pierce, Boston, assistant librarian. Lloyd W. Josselyn, chief librarian of the Jacksonville public library, is also chief librarian of the camp library.

Paul North Rice and George Roger Miller, formerly of the New York public library, and Theodore Delavine, another former assistant librarian, now serving at the camp, render invaluable aid in helping to arrange and classify the books at the camp.

**Camp Lee, Va.**

Ex-President Taft was the principal speaker at the dedication of the Camp Library at Camp Lee, January 26. It is not every day that one is fortunate enough to have the presence of an ex-president of the United States at a library function.

The exercises were brief, but very pleasant and impressive. Camp Librarian Henry S. Green presided and, after announcing that the building was complete and ready for the use of the 80th Division, and pronouncing it formally open, he introduced Brig. Gen. Lloyd M. Brett, the commanding officer, who, in a very few words, introduced Mr Taft.

Mr Taft referred pleasantly to his college friendship with Camp librarian Henry S. Green, Yale '79. He said that when the campaign was put on last fall to raise a million dollars to provide libraries for the soldiers and sailors he questioned the wisdom of going into the project on such an extensive scale, but that after hearing what had been accomplished and how welcome the books were to the boys, and after seeing the type of building provided for the camp library, he had become fully convinced that the work was very desirable and thoroughly worth while.

In going about to the different training camps, he said, one was deeply impressed by the many things which the people at home were doing for the comfort, entertainment and benefit of the boys in the camps. The loving care and thoughtfulness of the folk back home were being shown by such things as the Y. M. C. A. and K. of C. buildings, the Hostess houses, the theatres of the Commission on Training camp activities, and the camp libraries of the American Library Association. He was particularly gratified to learn that the books were following the boys to France, for over there the appreciation of a good book would be even keener than in an American training camp. He said he was more interested in the privates and what was being provided for them than he was in the men with the bars on their shoulders; that that was but human and perhaps justifiable, as he had a son who was a private in the army, and who landed in France "last Saturday."

Following Mr Taft's remarks Mr G. B. Utley was introduced as the official representative of the American Library Association. He gave a short talk outlining briefly a few of the important things which had been accomplished, such as the erection of similar buildings in 33 other camps; the collection and distribution of over 600,000 books by gift and purchase; the establishment of arrangements for overseas service and the dispatch of an official representative (Dr Raney); and the

collection of a fund of nearly \$1,700,000.00, which made all this work possible.

#### Camp McArthur

The entire inside of the building is lined with beaver board and the joints covered with strips of wood, stained golden oak, giving a neat panel effect. We got this idea from the Y. W. C. A. Hostess house in this camp. A row of stacks connects the corner of the office with the wall of the living rooms and gives us a workroom about 13 feet by 26 feet, which we find indispensable.

Our collection of books is being increased as fast as books can be wisely ordered and help secured to prepare them. We have many most interesting and intelligent requests for books. (A West Point professor, now a colonel, has interrupted the writing of these notes to talk over books on psychology with me).

Because the men in our camp are widely scattered the branches and traveling libraries will form an important part of our work. The Waco high school shop under the direction of Mr L. R. Stanfield is making boxes for the traveling collections similar to the boxes used by the state library commissions. We put 10 books of non-fiction and 40 books of fiction in each collection. When this system is in full operation men can get books without leaving their company streets. We adopted a system of book boxes in lieu of shelves on the advice of camp officers, most of our collections being kept in tents.

To get satisfactory help is still our darkest problem. Fortunately for us we moved into our building just as one division was leaving. There were a few days to catch up with the work before the new men began to come in.

We hear daily many expressions like these:

"This is surely home."

"This is the nearest home I've been for a long while."

"I've seen a lot of collections of books but nothing to beat this."

"These magazines (taken to the train), 'I'll sure stop a lot of crap games on the trip.'"

JOY E. MORGAN.

#### Camp Mead, Md.

Some of the men who come to the camp libraries seem to be having their first experience in the world of books; others are taking advantage of the opportunity to catch up on reading that had been postponed. A number are following various branches of English literature under the direction of the camp librarian. There is much read-

ing of books about farming, trades, special occupations, and whatever forms of activity engaged the men before they went to camp. Every camp reports interest in the study of French and in histories of France.

#### Camp Taylor, Ky.

The library at Camp Taylor near Louisville with 12,000v. was opened on January 22. A rather effective program had been planned but, owing to the severe weather, the date had to be changed and this interfered with both the Governor of Kentucky and the Mayor of Louisville being present. The principal address was made by Brig. Gen. W. E. Wilder. Addresses were also made by Gen. B. H. Young, Secretary P. C. Dix of the Y. M. C. A. and E. J. McDermit of the Knights of Columbus. Music was furnished throughout the program.

#### Camp Wadsworth, S. C.

The camp library of Camp Wadsworth, S. C., opened to the soldier public without any formality in the Old White Church, opposite the Knights of Columbus hall, on December 1, 1917.

The librarian took charge on November 19, and up to the time of opening was busy getting ready those books which were here unboxed awaiting his arrival, and in getting track of those which had been sent at the opening of the camp and issued under the care of the Y. M. C. A.

While conveniences are primitive, in the absence of a library building soon to be built, affairs are running smoothly and at present we are supplying the men through the seven units of the Y. M. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, and the base hospital. The old church is the library headquarters and preparation station, and being passably warm, serves also as a lending and trading place, where all are made welcome. These few days when the snow is five inches deep has sent the men in to read and borrow.

Effort has been made to make the place as attractive as possible by the display of maps and pictures. At the present writing about 2,000 volumes have been issued since the camp opened.

The library is welcomed by the soldier and one feels encouraged when they hear such remarks as "You've got a nice collection to select from," and "You're doing a good bit of work for the men."

GEO. C. CHAMPLIN.

#### The Great War

[A foreword by the dean of the College of Agriculture, to the reading list on the war, prepared by Miss E. Felsenthal of University of Illinois.]

We must make up our minds about the War. We must not do this from our own inner consciousness, nor from our individual notions as to whether war is right or wrong. We must know what *this war* is really about and what will be the results of defeat, or—what is the same in the end—of a drawn battle and a compromise. To do this we must read, not only the papers that tell about the progress of the war from day to day, but the writings of two classes of men; first, those who made the war; and second, those who have studied at first hand its character and its consequences.

We must read Treitschke till we understand the German intention to rule the earth for Germany's permanent advantage; till we know what is meant by "bleeding a country white." We must read Andre Cheradame till we know that the purpose of the present war is not the conquest of France but of the Southeast, and realize that if the war stops to-day, on whatever basis the settlement, Germany has gained more now than she expected to gain by this first war. We must read Gerard till we know and feel in our bones that if the German government and the German army last beyond this war, the next country attacked will be France, then England, then the United States. We must read Bernhardt until we learn of the German belief that "wars which have been deliberately provoked by far-seeing statesmen have had the happiest results." We must read collateral literature till we realize that the decision to incite this war was made at the Potsdam conference three weeks before the murder of the Archduke, and that the Armenian massacre was "made in Germany." We must read the German official "Customs of War" till we realize that frightfulness is an authorized part of German warfare, and that it is a precept of the German government that a nation at war has nothing to do with Christianity. We must read Bryce and

Cheradame until we know the kind of outrages officially employed by Germany "to destroy the intellectual and material welfare" of France and Belgium.

So shall we be informed about the kind of a war which has horrified humanity and which is threatening the very existence of civilization.

E. DAVENPORT.

### Store Publicity

The Public library of Jersey City, N. J., is doing some effective publicity work by means of window displays. Two of the principal branches are located in rented stores on busy thoroughfares. These stores have large show windows which have been utilized for library displays and exhibits of various kinds which have attracted considerable notice and been found to be effective means of advertising. One of these libraries has installed an electric display sign which may be seen for several blocks in either direction. It has proved to be an excellent method of attracting attention to the library and does not injure the neatness and simplicity of the building.

A contract has just been awarded for the erection of a new branch library building in the northern section of the town, to be known as Hudson City branch, to take the place of rented quarters in which the branch has been located for the past four years. The new building will be a one-story structure about 50 by 100 feet, of brick and stone, of simple but dignified design. The cost of the building will be about \$35,000 exclusive of the site. The location is just off from the main business thoroughfare, thus insuring quiet with convenience of access.

The Hudson City branch is the largest and most flourishing of the branches of the Jersey City public library. It contains over 11,000 volumes and has a circulation of about 120,000 per year.

Genius is an eye that can see nature, a heart that can feel nature and a boldness that dares to follow nature.—Celtic Triad.

### American Library Association

#### Annual meeting, 1918

The fortieth conference of the American Library Association will be held at Saratoga Springs, New York, from Monday to Saturday, July 1-6, 1918. Headquarters will be at the Grand Union hotel (1,200 rooms, rates \$5, \$6 and \$7, per day, American plan). Numerous other smaller and less expensive hotels will be available; names and rates in later announcements. Full particulars regarding rates and directions for making reservations will be issued about May 1, in the library periodicals and the *Bulletin* of the A. L. A.

Travel arrangements are being made by the Travel committee and the information gathered will be shortly published, although owing to the abnormal traffic conditions it is difficult for the committee to make definite statements this far in advance. Special trains will not be attempted, and it is possible that the usual summer reduced rates to Saratoga may not be offered. There will be no post-conference trip.

The president is at work on the program. The principal theme very naturally will be the War and what libraries are doing and can do to help win it. Five general sessions will be held, the first Monday evening, July 1. The affiliated societies, sections and round tables will hold their accustomed meetings. Their chief topic also will be the War. The general sessions will be held in the Convention auditorium, a few steps from the headquarters' hotel, and the group meetings in suitable rooms at the Grand Union.

Saturday, July 6, will be observed as "New York State Library Day". As guests of the New York state library at Albany, a stop of one day will be made there. A morning program commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the library, a luncheon tendered by the library, and tours of the Education building in the afternoon will be features of the day, concluding in ample time for evening trains and the New York boat.

### Library Meetings

**Chicago**—The February meeting of the Chicago library club at the Art Institute, was most highly entertained by Prof William Lyon Phelps of Yale University. He chose as his subject "Literary pilgrimages in England." He carried his large audience with him sympathetically as well as in a highly entertaining way, as he related his personal experiences in the homes and by-paths of the writers of England. His personal impressions of the famous literary people now living in England were quite illuminating.

**District of Columbia**—The regular meeting of the D. C. library association was held January 22 with President W. J. Hamilton in the chair.

Mr Houghton reported as chairman of the Program committee the adoption of an order of business which was to include besides the speaker of the evening a short talk on new organizations in the District of Columbia, such as the Food Administration, Council of National Defence etc., two 10 minute book reviews and a series of questions asked and answered by members of the association. Mr Houghton particularly emphasized the last item as having in it the possibility of making the association of practical value to the members it being the hope of the program committee that the association might become a clearing house for all sorts of library information. Questions are to be sent to the secretary of the association and by her sent out with the announcement of meetings so that members may be prepared with answers.

### Organization of Food Administration

The president then called on Miss Dickey, assistant in the Food Administration, who spoke briefly upon the work of the Administration. It is extremely flexible in character, changing with changing conditions; divisions arise in answer to a special need and then disappear when the need has passed. The Administration is organized according to commodities, there

being a director and staff for each as wheat, sugar, etc. Work is planned as a result of a conference between producers, transport agents and others concerned in the handling of the commodity. All necessary advertising has been furnished by the newspapers free of charge, mainly as news items, and there has been an immense amount of material released for publication. Each state, as well as many of the larger cities, has its Food Administrator with his staff, and after a general policy has been mapped out these state and city administrators are permitted to adapt the policy to their own varying needs. As to results, among other things, Miss Dickey mentioned the high price of sugar at the time of the Civil War when there was no world shortage and the present price of 9 cents a pound in face of a serious world shortage. This holds good with many other commodities.

### Questions

The following questions which had been submitted to the association were read by the president:

Is there any index to the Commerce reports, other than the Government's skeleton index? *The Standard Daily Trade Service*, published by the Standard Statistics, New York City, which indexes the Commerce reports of the previous day. Cumulates every 3 months and is annotated. 2. Is there a good list of trade directories available? A. Lists of directories have been compiled by the librarians of the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission. 3. Is the list of house organs (magazines issued by business firms) published in *Printer's Ink* in 1916 the latest and best published? A. A. list was published in *Postage* for August, 1917. The Food Administration, Trade and Technical Press Section, has a list of nearly 800 to which their weekly bulletin goes; this is of course not published. 4. Is there available for a library that cannot purchase books such as Ayer's newspaper annual an up-to-date list of technical and trade papers? A. *Advertising and Selling Magazine* publishes such a list every year and a separate list of farm papers. Mahin's Advertising data Book, N. Y., 1916 contains such a list.

### Reviews

Mr Blessing of the Public Library reviewed Roy C. Andrew's "W hale hunting with gun and camera." He recom-

mended the book on various counts, a well printed book, on good paper with fine illustrations, very readable and full of information and on a subject about which most people are ignorant. The book deals more with the commercial than with the sportsman's side of the subject.

Miss Wootten spoke of Dr Charles Smith's "O. Henry biography." Dr Smith was a life long friend of Mr Porter (O. Henry), and peculiarly fitted to write the biography. The book was hailed by *The Dial* as the literary find of the year, which in itself is sufficient recommendation for any work. The story of O. Henry's life is told in full, not leaving out even the portion known as the clouded years. One chapter is given up to the "vogue of O. Henry" and quotes appreciations from many men, among whom it is interesting to note that the English outnumber the Americans. Miss Wootten found the book most interesting and recommended it to lovers of O. Henry and to those who do not know him as opening a new and delightful acquaintance.

#### On the battle front

The speaker of the evening was the Hon. C. C. Dill, of the House of Representatives, who gave a wonderfully interesting account of his recent visit to the battle front in France and Belgium. By means of a map, which was a copy of that prepared by Maj. Parker, military observer for the United States, he gave a most vivid picture of the relations of the belligerent countries and of the path of the German invasion. He sketched for us the battle of the Marne and that of Verdun, the two crucial battles of the war, giving us many side lights which illuminated those events as no mere newspaper account had been able to do. He pictured something of the sombreness of the battle front and the contrast between the troops, alert and ready, going into the front line accompanied with all manner of equipment and the weary, dirty, wounded men coming back from the front line,

attended by their battered and wrecked equipment, the very debris of the battle. He dwelt upon the wonderful spirit shown by the French, whom he characterizes as the finest fighting men in the world. He spoke also of some of the traits that make for charm in the French, among them the custom of saluting the graves of their fallen comrades, a custom which so impressed the party of Americans that unconsciously they found themselves joining in the salute. Mr Dill gave a picture of our own men, determined, serious, bent upon accomplishing the task before them and said further that he found them with wants well supplied save that they had been unable to get their mail, which was indeed a deprivation. A visit to the Belgian front was both exciting and dangerous as the party was there practically under fire. Mr Dill paid high tribute to the splendid work of the Red Cross both in the hospitals and in civilian relief work, and to that of the Y. M. C. A. A glimpse of the English hospitals and the work they are doing in making the cripples whole and in teaching the blind to help themselves made one feel that the age of miracles is not past. Mr Dill both inspired us with the recitals of things accomplished in the field and behind the lines and sobered us by the realization of the immensity of the task still before us and the great responsibility that rests upon Americans in the winning of this war.

ALICE C. ATWOOD,  
Secretary.

**Kansas**—A conference of librarians and trustees from Central and South-western Kansas was held at Hutchinson, January 25.

No officers were elected. Meetings were very informal and much time was devoted to discussion of individual library problems. Mrs F. D. Wolcott, president of the Hutchinson library board, conducted the meetings.

Mrs W. Y. Morgan, of the Hutchinson library board, opened the first session with a brief address of welcome, to which Mr Julius Lucht, librarian of

the Wichita public library, responded. Mrs L. S. Trotter, of the Wichita public library board, delivered an inspirational address on "The duties and responsibilities of the library trustee." This was followed by a lively discussion by trustees and librarians.

An afternoon session was held in the High school library. This is one of the largest high school libraries in the state, and contains many valuable reference works, which librarians were glad to have an opportunity to examine. Superintendent Hall told of "Reference books most valuable in the high school library," and Mr Lucht followed with a talk on "Reference books most valuable in the public library."

The library at the State reformatory was visited. Mr Coffin, superintendent of schools at the reformatory, is in charge of the library work. Under his direction, the boys have made book cases and tables and fitted up a large, attractive reading room. The work of the boys in resewing and rebinding books was watched with much interest. Magazine and books are rebound and made to give the utmost service.

The conference was concluded by an address on "Library work in army camps" by Mr W. H. Kerr, who has charge of the library work at Camp Funston. Many questions concerning the book needs of the men were answered. A continuation of the work of collecting books along technical lines was urged.

Many of the librarians and trustees remained for the concert by Mme Schumann-Heink in the evening.

IDA DAY.

**Massachusetts**—The winter meeting of the Massachusetts library club was held at Tufts college, Medford, on January 24. The club was cordially welcomed by the president of the college, Dr H. C. Bumpus.

Miss Edith Guerrier, chairman of the Library section of the Public Information division, United States Food Administration, talked interestingly on "The libraries' opportunity to help win the war."

Dr Herbert Putnam, librarian of Congress, spoke briefly on "National war library work."

Carl H. Milam spoke specifically of the progress of the War library work. Approximately \$1,700,000 had been contributed to the War library fund. Buildings have been erected in 34 camps. There are 78 men now in the library war service, located at 34 camps and at Camp Merritt. At Headquarters, in Washington, seven or eight men are employed. As many as 600,000 books have been received, plated, labeled and sent to the camps. Washington is still needing more books. Something over 100,000 books have been purchased. Mr Milan spoke of the necessity for conducting a campaign for books. This will likely take place the latter part of March. Literally millions of books will be needed. The quality of the books so far given has been gratifying.

In opening the afternoon session, President Loring urged every member to join an organization which she described as a club for the preservation of the purity of the English language. There are no dues and Miss Loring thought that a member would avoid instinctively the use of such words as "suicided," "loan" and "donate."

#### Work at Camp Devens

Mr John A. Lowe, librarian of Camp Devens, gave an interesting description of the location of the library, the place it occupied in the camp life and an outline of the library work. The working day begins at 6:30 in the morning and continues until 10:30 in the evening. Every effort is made to make the men feel welcome. Smoking is allowed in the building. The men may take for a two weeks' period as many books as they can reasonably use. The date when the book is due is stamped on the dating slip of each volume. There is no registration and no borrower's cards are in use. The library makes use of a reserve system, which is much appreciated. The librarian has found a good spirit of coöperation and friendliness among the men and there has been no attempt made to separate the officers and the enlisted men.

There has been no friction and the men mingle without restraint and easily with the officers. Officers and men have both declared their warm appreciation of the library service. Mr Lowe said that out of a group of 28 soldiers who had recently been quarantined 20 men who were free to leave their quarters came first to the library in preference to other places. Mr Lowe said that he was more interested in the quality than in the quantity of the circulation and from the instances mentioned it is clear that the men are asking for an unusually desirable type of book. Among the volumes asked for in a single day the following were mentioned: Carlyle's *Sartor resartus*, Goethe's poems, James' *Memories and portraits*, Kipling's *Collected poems*, some of plays of Shakespeare, Van Dyke's "Fisherman's luck" and Muir's "Travels in Alaska." Mr Lowe gave interesting examples of the books asked for which reflected varying inclinations and an awakening point of view among foreigners.

#### Work throughout the state

Mr Charles F. D. Belden, chairman of the Free library commission, spoke briefly on the matter of closing libraries during the coal shortage. Mr Belden thought that every effort should be made to keep libraries open. The closing of them is the last thing to do if it can, in any way, be avoided. It is probably true that the Fuel Administration would want the libraries open during the extremely cold weather.

In the campaign for contributions to the War Library Fund in Massachusetts 133 cities and towns equaled or exceeded their quota, 15 towns and one city (Newton) doubled their quota, 6 towns (Belmont, Dalton, Duxbury, Hopedale, Lincoln and Nahant) tripled their quota, 4 towns (Brookline, Lancaster, Milton and Petersham) collected four times their quota, and one town (Dover) collected eight times its quota.

Mr Belden summarized the library war activities of recent months by showing that since the beginning of the organized work to supply soldiers and sailors with carefully selected books and magazines

there have been given by residents of the state, largely through public libraries, 65,798 books. This includes 15,038 volumes sent to Camp Devens, 28,290 volumes to nine camps outside of Massachusetts, 5,369 to 19 forts along the New England coast, 9,177 to ships touching Charlestown navy yard, New London, Halifax and Hoboken, 4,330 to five radio stations and the remaining 3,594 volumes to hospitals and other military establishments. In New England 195 towns are contributing books for use in the camp libraries and the number of volumes contributed by people outside of Boston has amounted to 50,932.

The topic "Latin ideals in contrast to German culture," was discussed in a forceful and stirring way by Miss Amy Bernardy, special commissioner of the Italian board of immigration. Miss Bernardy began by pointing out that while all war brings horrors many wonderful things have grown out of the present struggle. It has made all people more thoughtful. It has even filled them with a feeling of loneliness when among other people. She compared this feeling very aptly to the sensation of sailors who often have about them for long periods only the immensity of sea and sky. The elemental things under such conditions receive a new emphasis. Miss Bernardy pointed this out as one of the great lessons of the war. The quality of reading along the Italian front is superior to what it would have been within the families in peace times. Miss Bernardy showed how Italy was animated by a common purpose which is being carried out in a truly democratic environment.

FRANK H. WHITMORE,  
Recorder.

The winter meeting of the Western Massachusetts library club was held at the Forbes Library, Northampton, February 20. In addition to the usual list of books of the year suggested for smaller libraries, the club has undertaken to publish a list of 100 popular books on the Great War. It was felt that there was a call at this time among library readers for such a selected list. The list in proof was submitted to the

members for revision at the meeting. The initial cost of the undertaking is borne by the club, so that the price of the lists to libraries will be but a trifle over \$1 a hundred.

After the discussion of the books of 1917 and of the war list, the president, Mr Wellman, introduced Professor Herbert Vaughan Abbott of Smith college, who took as his subject "Way of reform in modern drama." He was followed by Miss Mary K. Brewster, press agent of the Municipal theater of Northampton, who gave a brief sketch of the history and ideals of this theater. The theater has a resident manager this year for the first time, Mr Melville Burke, who described some of the difficulties in the path of a manager of a municipal theater. His problems are very different from those of the manager of an ordinary stock company.

In the afternoon, the club members were the guests of the Smith College library and Forbes library at a performance of Stanley Houghton's "The Younger Generation."

GEORGINA E. CARR,

**New York**—The January meeting of the New York library club was held January 10, in the Merchants' Association library.

The speaker of the afternoon was Dr Paul N. Nystrom, Director of the Bureau of Merchandising Research of the International Magazine Company, who read a paper on "Relation of the public library to the private business library," which will be printed later in PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

He showed how the public library can serve the business library more effectively.

In the discussion which followed it was suggested that the public library act as a clearing house for the special library, that as the latter usually had a very limited number of books, it depended upon the public library for information and to make this effective more privileges were requested for the special librarian, such as access to stacks and extended telephone service. From the public library side it was sug-

gested that a representative from each type of special library be located at the central public library to take charge of this work, the expense to be borne by the special libraries.

Another suggestion was that a catalog of the library resources of the city be made showing what and where, so that the special librarian, by the use of the telephone, could have at a moment's notice the material on her subject which the city contained and where it was located.

The next meeting, Thursday, March 14, at 3 p. m., will be held in the United Engineering Societies building when Mr Harrison W. Craver and Mr Alfred D. Flinn will be the speakers.

ELEANOR ROPER,

### An Appeal from I. L. A.

The following letter from the president of the Illinois library association has been distributed as far as possible among the library workers of Illinois. Anyone who sees it here for the first time is invited to consider it a personal appeal.

Members of the Library Staff:

Plans are under way to issue a *Handbook* of the Illinois library association in February, and if you are not already a member this will be a favorable time to join. The *Handbook* will contain the constitution and a list of all active members, and the desirability of having your name in the list is manifest.

It is a good professional investment and every library worker who expects to advance should care enough for the profession to identify himself with the regular organization of his fellow workers, and make his personal contribution of service and bear his small share in its support.

Out of more than a thousand library workers in the state the association has less than 200 members to carry on its work, and there are at least as many more who owe it to their position and professional standing to assume their obligation to the cause by becoming active members of the state association.

If you are not a member, the association needs and asks your interest and coöperation and support. If you are already a member, invite others, who are perhaps only careless in the matter, to join, and make our membership adequately represent the library interests of the state.

JANE P. HUBBELL,  
President, I. L. A.

### Interesting Things in Print

✓ Special List No 13 issued by the Kansas City public library is an annotated list of aids on income and war taxes.

x A second edition of *Stories to tell to children* has been issued by the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. "Several story titles have been added and some revision has been made of the lists of sources."

4 The story of the Sargent Industrial school of Beacon, N. Y. (Matteawan) 1891-1916, where housekeeping and homemaking are taught and learned as an integral part of the life of the village to which it ministers, told most interestingly, has been issued in a beautiful book full of suggestions. A foreword of appreciation is by Sarah L. Arnold.

und 11 The Rand School of Social Science, New York, has issued Volume 2 of the American Labor year book. It is a volume of 384 pages recording the progress of socialist and labor movement in the United States and abroad during 1916-17, supplemented by a series of articles by prominent specialists on important social and economic questions. It is edited by A. Trachtenberg, director of the department of labor research of the Rand school. A volume bound in paper, 60 cents, cloth binding \$1.25, plus postage.

Abundant illustrations from European city planning characterizes the second annual report of the California State Capital planning commission. The work at Sacramento began with a committee of 5 in the Chamber of Commerce, which shortly grew to 150 members, and the engagement of Dr John Nolan to supervise. The Legislature created a State commission to develop Sacramento under the Nolan plan as a model capital. The second annual report of this commission is now ready for distribution. Free copies may be had by addressing State-librarian M. J. Ferguson, Sacramento, California.

### Views of Library School Directors\*

#### Los Angeles public library

In these days, no vocabulary of library catch phrases would be complete if it did not include "standardization of library service." How rapid will be its metamorphosis from a catch word to an accomplished fact remains to be seen, but there are indications of progress. Among them is the growing tendency to scrutinize and classify the various agencies for library training to the end that the functions of each will not infringe upon those of others and that the products of each shall have their proper places in the scheme of library service. It is desirable and important that distinctions should be made, but there are obstacles to exact classification in the lack of definite standards by which to measure the different agencies. In two recent instances, institutions with established training classes have expanded them into library schools.

It is only natural that these changes should be looked upon with distrust by zealous guardians of professional standards and that the burden of proof should rest with the training class which enters the field of general training. As the Library school of the Los Angeles public library belongs to this class, a brief explanation of our situation here may not be amiss.

Bearing in mind the locations of the older library schools, a glance at the map should reveal the primary argument for library schools on the Pacific Coast. In California, we have not been able to meet the constantly increasing demand for trained librarians by importations. There are numbers of positions for which technical training is needed where salaries are not sufficient to lure eastern library school graduates from families and friends, and on the other hand, there are numbers of promising girls who wish to become librarians but who are unable to go across the United States for their train-

\*Continued from January.

ing. It is true that graduates of eastern schools do come west. We have eight of them on the faculty of the Los Angeles school. However, it has been proven that inducements are not great enough to bring them in sufficient numbers.

Training for library service has been an activity of the Los Angeles public library for 30 years. The growth in organization, equipment and faculty has been such during the past few years that expansion to fit the needs of a general library school has been a comparatively simple matter. The faculty has been increased to three full time members in addition to heads of departments of the Los Angeles public library and others who devote a total of 208 hours to class instruction. Practical work has been reduced to 282 hours to permit the extension of periods of instruction to 430 hours.

We believe that the comparative study of technique develops adaptability and breadth of view, qualities which are as desirable in students who are to be employed in a single library as for those who go to other positions, hence instruction in general methods was given even to training classes. I believe our instruction is now as general in character as in most one-year schools. Of course, like other schools in connection with large city libraries, the local library and its branches are the laboratories in which a large part of the practical work is assigned, and the special methods practiced in them are used in class work for comparison and illustration.

The proportion of time allowed for each course has been decided upon after a careful study of the courses given in other library schools with due consideration to our special problems. For example, we are placing emphasis on county and school library work, both because we have in Los Angeles unusual facilities for training in these branches of library service, and because they represent the greatest special demand in California.

In these days it is unwise to predict anything, but the prospect for profes-

sional service in the Southwest is promising. The very nature of the country demanded extensive rather than intensive work in the beginning. Now, to adopt a military term, we are able to "dig in." Forty-one of the 58 California counties have county libraries. Municipal libraries are thriving. That school libraries are coming into their rightful place in the educational scheme is shown by the increasing demand for school librarians and by the recent passage of a school librarian certification law.

THEODORA R. BREWITT,  
Principal.

### Library Schools

#### California state library

The work of the second term began on Monday, January 7. Several new courses have been taken up: Book selection; High school library work; Law reference work; Subject headings; Indexing; and School library service.

On January 23, Mr Robert Rea, librarian of the San Francisco public library, gave two lectures before the class on Book selection, and Choice of editions.

On January 28, the class visited the State Printing Office and were shown the various branches of its work.

Esther Bomgardner, '15, has been appointed librarian of the National City high school library.

#### Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh

The school opened for the winter term, January 2, 1918.

On January 18, 1918, Dr William M. Davidson, superintendent of schools, Pittsburgh, Pa., spoke to the class upon "The correlation between libraries and public schools."

"State supervision of school libraries," "Instruction to rural school teachers," "Book selection," and "Book lists" were the subjects of four lectures which Miss Martha Wilson, librarian of the Woodland branch of the Cleveland public library, gave on January 24 to 26, 1918.

Mrs Edna Lyman Scott, storyteller and interpreter of literature, Oak Park,

Illinois, lectured on January 29 and 30 upon "The state supervision of children's work in the Iowa library commission," and upon "The inspirational influence of reading."

Elizabeth H. Dexter, '13, has been made High School assistant, Schools division, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Berenice Jean Finney, '14, has resigned her position as assistant to supervisor of work with schools, Public library, District of Columbia, to accept a position in the Signal corps of the War Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Lesly Newton, '13, has been made children's librarian of the Lawrenceville, branch, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Elizabeth Nixon, '13, formerly in charge of the book department, Y. W. C. A., New York city, has been appointed head worker, The Pottsville Mission, Pottsville, Pa.

Amena Pendleton, '04, has accepted the position of head of the children's department of the Rosenberg library, Galveston, Texas.

Phyllis Price, '13, has resigned her position as cataloger of the library of the Academy of the New Church, Bryn Athyn, Pa., to become index and catalogue clerk, Signal corps, Washington, D. C.

Grace M. Starkey, '11, has resigned her position as assistant in the children's department of the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, to become clerk in the Sterret school, Pittsburgh, Pa.

#### University of Illinois

The members of the senior class of the Library school who have not already completed the required month of field work have been assigned to public libraries in Illinois. Edith Hague has been assigned to the Evanston public library; Frances Klank to Rockford public library, and Angeline McNeill to Oak Park public library.

Director Windsor returned on February 1 from his two months of war service in Washington. Mr Windsor had the opportunity of visiting several of the cantonment libraries.

On December 14, 1917, Elizabeth B. Wales, Armour '94, secretary of the Missouri library commission, gave a helpful lecture before the members of the Library school on Phases of library work in Missouri. Some of Miss Wales' experiences have been unique, and the class found her recital of them both interesting and profitable.

The University library is displaying

a service flag containing 16 stars, 11 for military service and 5 for civilian. The Library school has also its own flag, showing three stars for the three young men who registered as juniors last fall, and are now in camp libraries or military service.

On February 11, 1918, the University Senate voted the degree of Bachelor of library science to Vivian G. Colgrove, A. B., University of Minnesota. Miss Colgrove will be for the immediate future on the staff of the University of Illinois library.

Elizabeth Henry, 1908-09, has returned to complete the senior year, after a year's absence.

FRANCES SIMPSON,  
Assistant Director.

#### New York state library

School exercises will be suspended from March 2 to the second week in April on account of field practice and the usual library trip. Two libraries will be organized by students under the direction of the Educational extension division, at Delaware academy (Delhi, N. Y.) and Washington academy at Salem, N. Y. Two students will also assist in cataloging the Public library at Oneonta, N. Y.

Miss Sanderson has been assisting Miss Webster in the reorganization of the Delmar (N. Y.) free library.

The class in "Business libraries" has visited the research and general libraries of the General Electric Co. at Schenectady and the technical library of the Rensselaer Polytechnic institute. Five of the students have been assigned to special libraries for their field practice.

#### Summer Session

The summer session will, as is usual in even years, be divided into two parts of three weeks each.

The opening date of the first part of the course will be June 5. The second part of the course will begin June 26 and will close either on July 17 or July 19. An opportunity will be given to spend one or two days at the conference of the American Library Association which will meet at Saratoga, July 1-6.

F. K. WALTER.

**Pratt institute**

The Graduates' association held a tea on Thursday afternoon, January 31, at the Cosmopolitan club, New York. It was preceded by a business meeting, at which the following officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, Miss Harriet B. Gooch, of the Library School faculty; vice-president, Miss Julia F. Carter; secretary, Mr Frank Place, Jr.; treasurer, Miss Genevieve O. Reilly. The association voted to accept a gift of \$35 from the class of 1895 as the nucleus for a fund to be loaned to the students of the school to enable them to take advantage of the education and recreative opportunities of New York, or to supplement their resources in any way that would be to their advantage. Several personal pledges were at once made to increase the fund, and members of various classes, while unable to pledge their own class organization, promised to bring the matter up and hoped that action would follow. Professor Frank Aydelotte, of the Massachusetts institute of technology, gave an address on professional ideals, and was followed by the vice-director who spoke briefly on the war service rendered by libraries and library school graduates. There were about 80 present and the innovation was voted a success.

The director of the school, Mr Stevens, has been in charge of the library at Camp Merritt during February.

The vice-director attended the meeting of the Association of American library schools held in Atlantic City on February 15.

The coal famine in New York affected the school in several ways. The practice for some years of the students to work in the branches of the Brooklyn public library on alternate Friday afternoons and evenings during the second term, was very much curtailed by the closing of the branches. Another deprivation is that of the opportunity of visiting Washington.

The visiting lecturers during January took up various phases of children's

work. The administration of the children's room and the children's department was given by Miss Clara W. Hunt, story-telling by Miss Anna C. Tyler, and the history of the movement of children's libraries and the selection of children's books by Miss Annie Carroll Moore. This was followed by the presentation of the administration of branch libraries by Miss Mary Casamajor, librarian of the Bedford branch of the Brooklyn public library. Mr W. O. Carson, Inspector of public libraries of Ontario, spoke February 26 on the administrative problems of the small library. Miss Mary L. Titcomb, librarian of the Washington County free library at Hagerstown, Md., on January 29 talked to the class about what the public library can do to stimulate patriotism and an understanding of the problems of the war.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-Director.

**Riverside, Cal.**

The short course closes March 2. Dr Arthur E. Bostwick gave 12 lectures on Modern library problems. These lectures were open to the public as well as to the students.

Miss Margaret Mann, head cataloger, Carnegie free library, Pittsburgh, completed her five weeks' teaching of cataloging and classification February 23.

Miss Adelaide Hasse, in charge of the Department of Economics and Documents of the New York public library, completed her four weeks of work in documents and reference March 2.

Miss Mignon P. Baker, who was to give the work in high school libraries and the relation of schools and libraries, was called home to Colorado on account of her father's illness. We were very fortunate in securing Mrs F. W. Beseler, who is better known as Ida Mendenhall. She completed her work here March 2.

The other members of the teaching force were Mr J. F. Daniels, Miss Alice Butterfield, Miss Lillian L. Dickson,

Mrs Mabel Frances Faulkner, and W. Elmo Reavis.

The instruction given by Mr W. Elmo Reavis extended over two weeks of half days six days a week. Each member of the class bound two books and several pamphlets.

The plans for the summer school are under way and announcement will be made within a short time.

J. F. DANIELS.

#### Simmons college

An important change has been authorized by the corporation in the conditions for the graduation of students from other colleges who carry our one year course in library science.

Heretofore our B. S. degree has not been granted to them until a year of practical experience has followed their year of study in residence; but, beginning with June, 1918, the degree will be conferred at the end of the year in residence, provided all other conditions of graduation shall have been met.

This has been made possible, by making the curriculum of the one year course identical with the technical portion of the four year program.

To co-operate with the fuel administration the college voluntarily substituted Saturday classes for those of Monday as that saved half a day's heating each week. Actual coal shortage compelled further closing from February 7 to 11, inclusive. At the time of writing, work has been resumed, and it is hoped it may not be interrupted, but adjustments are being planned to minimize any loss of time which may be unavoidable.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY.

#### University of Washington

W. E. Henry, director of the Library school, is at Camp Fremont, Palo Alto, California, having been appointed by the War Service committee of the A. L. A. to supervise the construction and organization of the camp library.

The course of lectures on Library work with children given by Miss Gertrude E. Andrus and the series of general lectures on library subjects by va-

rious librarians, which are regularly scheduled for the third quarter, have been moved forward into the second quarter to take the place of Mr Henry's classes which will be resumed next quarter.

A large delegation from the Library school attended the mid-winter meeting of the Puget Sound library club at Camp Lewis, American Lake, Wash., December 28. This afforded an excellent opportunity to see the camp and to inspect the camp library.

Miss Mabel Zoe Wilson of the State Normal School library, Bellingham, gave a stimulating talk, February 7, on the opportunities and possibilities of library work in normal schools.

Eleanor Stephens, '14, librarian of the Yakima public library, talked to the students January 24, on Problems in the Yakima public library.

Ruth Davis, '16, has been appointed general assistant in the Whitman College library, Walla Walla, Wash.

John Richards, '16, has been appointed librarian of the Camp Fremont library at Palo Alto, California.

CHARLES W. SMITH.

#### University of Wisconsin

Class work was resumed after the holiday vacation on January 3, giving three and a half weeks before the semester examinations..

Regular classes were continued, while the formal instruction in children's work was begun by Mrs Coleman, following the lectures on story-telling given by Mrs Thorne-Thomsen before the holidays. The lectures on publicity and poster bulletins with the accompanying illustrative exhibits were also given during these weeks.

As many of the students had visited libraries, book-stores, publishing houses, printing plants, or art galleries during their vacation, informal accounts of these visits added to the interest of the discussions.

In connection with the work in publicity, Prof W. G. Bleyer of the School of Journalism gave two lectures on Newspaper publicity for libraries. Miss Bascom assigned as the last book selection problem of the semester a choice of several groups of books re-

quiring each student to present copy (including head lines) for a newspaper article. The books in groups so treated were Modern poetry, Literary lives, Personal war narratives, Lives of leaders from the Middle West and Americans by adoption. Prof. O. J. Campbell of the department of English gave an illuminating lecture on "foreign fiction" in the book selection course.

The lectures and discussions in current events emphasized war service in various phases, as follows: Civilian relief of the Red Cross, by Prof J. L. Gillin, of the department of sociology; Camp libraries, by Mr Dudgeon; Food conservation, by Miss Marlatt. All of these lectures fired the enthusiasm of the students, making them eager to help the libraries where they will work during the field practice period, in war service.

Field practice began February 4, a day that gave the students a taste of pioneer life, as it proved to be the stormiest day in a winter unprecedented for its cold and snow. Trains were delayed or failed to run at all, connections were lost, meals uncertain, and several groups starting in different directions, "found warmest welcome in an inn" for the night. But all reached their destination safely after many hours, having gained enroute some of the experience which field practice is designed to afford, ability to meet situation, judgment, patience, and an appreciation of the humorous side of things.

The members of the faculty spend much of February and March in their annual visits among the libraries of the state, supervising also the work of the students, in their various appointments.

The 36 libraries coöperating with the school and the work to be done are set forth in the following table:

#### General work

Antigo, Barron, Fond du Lac, Madison, Marinette, Marshfield, Medford, Oshkosh, Prairie du Chien, Racine, Stanley, Viroqua.

#### Cataloging and other records

Colfax, De Pere, Eau Claire Normal, Elkhorn, Fort Atkinson, Jefferson, Mosinee, New Richmond, South Milwaukee, Stevens

Point, Waukesha, Library school, University library.

#### Reclassification

Beloit, Whitewater Normal.

#### Acting librarian

Elroy—Manitowoc (children's librarian).

#### Children's work

Grand Rapids, Reedsburg.

#### Special libraries

Governor's office, Legislative reference library, University Extension department—package.

#### Poster Exhibit

A war poster exhibit has been assembled and prepared to travel throughout the United States by the Newark public library. It consists of 69 war posters and a variety of kindred matter described in a pamphlet "Posters and American war posters" published as the contribution of the trustees of the library.

The exhibit is of value as a help to increase the study of American artists in the field of posters and especially of the posters made to help prepare for war.

The extent of the exhibit and the arrangements which have been made for borrowing it may be learned by inquiry of the Public library, Newark, N. J.

#### Public Library

Prefers busy days to dull days.

Urges you to make use of its resources.

Buys books for public use.

Loans books free to all Pottsville people.

Invites you to investigate its possibilities.

Circulates many books on one card.

Looks up facts and figures for business men.

Initiates you into the delights of foreign travel.

Begins the day at 9 A. M. and closes at 9 P. M.

Refreshes tired people with good stories.

Ardently seeks to serve and please.

Roots out answers to difficult questions.

Yes, it is a necessary institution.

*Librarian's report of Public library, Pottsville, Pa.*

## Department of School Libraries

### State Supervision of School Libraries

J. A. Churchill, State superintendent of public instruction, Salem, Oregon

The early years of every state system of public schools is the history of a slow development through chaos. The fundamental idea that liberty is dependent on education had been grasped by each and each strove to establish a system of schools that would educate the masses of its people.

Nearly every state has now a good system of public education which came up always through much tribulation. This was true also with Oregon which for many years possessed the weakness of having no uniform definite standards or such supervision as would require all schools of the state to measure up to those standards.

The enactment of such school laws and regulations has fixed definite standards and made mandatory a closer supervision, resulting in the better organized and better supervised system of schools.

The history of the school libraries of the state, parallels that of the schools. Here and there through good leadership libraries were established and maintained; but the service was usually sporadic as the efficiency of the library waned when the leadership, through the vicissitudes of his calling, passed on.

Because the development of Oregon's library is probably typical of all other states, I shall refer to it somewhat in my discussion. That the library work of the state might be organized and responsibility for its administration centralized, the Legislature of 1905 enacted such laws as made possible our present Oregon state library. In so far as its work relates directly to the schools, it has attempted to accomplish four things: (a) To place an adequate reference library in each standard high school of the state, and a library in every rural and village

school; (b) To standardize all libraries as to content; (c) To avoid wasteful expenditures through agents or experimental buying of books; (d) To avoid scattering of books and make possible the building up of school libraries.

The most essential features of the law for the accomplishment of these aims are: (a) The purchase of libraries by every school is made mandatory. (b) Each county is required to levy a tax for library purposes and each district is accredited with such an amount as represents the ratio of its school children to the whole. The number of books in each library should increase therefore steadily. (c) The state library issues lists from which all books must be selected by the districts at a stated time in the year. (d) All books on the list are purchased annually by the state library board by submitting lists for bids, which insures the very lowest contract price obtainable, as the firm receiving the award, distributes all books and makes all its collections through the library board.

Each state administers its school library laws either through the office of the superintendent of public instruction or through a state library board or commission. The latter is Oregon's plan and possesses many marked advantages over the former. There is more continuity of service and therefore a more stable policy of administration. A term of the state superintendent is for two or four years, and he may be influenced in the selection of the members of his official family by the loyalty shown in political adherents. A library board chosen especially because of their interest in library work actuated by no other motive than that of securing the best library service for the state will select a capable librarian, who will be continued in her work so long as she successfully administers her work and is willing to remain in the office. In the

newer or smaller states the continuous employment of one person upon school lists and pamphlets is not necessary and much time is left for other library work directed by the state. Again the connection of the State Library in an official capacity with the schools puts it in touch with other school facilities, such as the high school debating league, the parent-teacher association, the state reading circle and programs for national days. Its work is broadened through the knowledge of children's books it must have, as well as by following the trend of education shown by school practice and school organization appearing in various publications from time to time, through the direct service it is daily giving to the teachers of the state. In all of this work the Superintendent of Public Instruction should give through his school organization the fullest coöperation and be happy in the knowledge that the authority for directing school libraries of the state is centralized in a department whose secretary has been trained for her work, and, therefore, knows the work as he can never hope to know it.

It is not sufficient that a state make mandatory the duty of a county to levy taxes for creating school libraries. There must be some agency that checks up to see that the law is enforced and that there be greater efficiency of centralized buying and delivery. Through such supervision it is believed that the Oregon method offers through its centralized purchases lower prices than is found on any other state list. It is of course, impossible for any supervising agency to visit or see all school libraries in a state. Work must be done through other agencies.

The attempt of a library department to exercise supervision over all school libraries encounters many difficulties in those counties in which there are no highly organized systems of county libraries. Wherever the county library has been organized the results are most gratifying. Here the supervision is closer, the leadership trained and capa-

ble, and the results satisfactory. The central library selects and circulates the books, attends to the repairing, and provides such a library for each school as is adequate to its needs. All of the field work in such a county is left to the county librarian at a far lower cost and a more efficient service.

All institutions of the state preparing teachers for their work are giving such library courses as a part of the preparation as will give a knowledge of cataloging and classification, care and use of books, and the value of the school library.

Close supervision of school libraries involves three distinct problems:

1. The high school library.
2. The rural school library.
3. The general school library in the village or small school.

Through the plan of standardizing high schools in Oregon, the library content is quite satisfactory. Each school meeting the requirement for standardization, must have the New International or latest Britannica encyclopedia and at least two hundred and fifty books exclusive of fiction, chosen from the high school list. Many high schools with libraries of more than 2,000 volumes could not meet this last requirement when the state took up the standardization of its high schools, so indiscriminately had the books been selected. All libraries are now rich in their reference material and stress is being laid on the best way to use the material. Many a high school has a good library equipment that is seldom worked to its full capacity. The efficiency of any high school may be definitely gauged by the use that is made of the reference library by the pupils. Some teachers through a lack of large knowledge of the subject matter which they teach, fail to direct the reference work of the library. Others whose preparation has been ample find the multiplicity of classes and sometimes subjects, too much of a tax on their strength to give the reference work the proper atten-

tion. The policy of the department, therefore, has been to ask school boards in all towns employing ten high school teachers to select as one of its members a trained librarian who will devote her full time supervising the work of the high school library. Wherever the plan has been put into operation, the result has been marked not only in the increased knowledge of the various subjects by the pupils, but in quickening the professional growth of the teachers.

Several cities in Oregon are now working under this plan. The school librarian is chosen by the city or county librarian after consultation with the city superintendent of schools, thereby insuring the competency of the school librarian for the work. She is under the immediate supervision of the city librarian who directs the library work both in the high school and in the grades. The city superintendent coöperates by requiring his teachers to follow their intelligent leadership, as it directs the reading of the children. The plan has proved that the library is never a problem when administered by or in connection with an excellent public library system.

So impressed have been many school boards with this work that in the smaller high schools one teacher librarian is employed who gives half her time to teaching and the other half to library supervision. It is to be regretted that these teachers have not always had special training for the work; but their responsibility and the emphasis the school board places upon it arouses an interest in all the library activities, giving breadth to the subject matter and vigor to the teaching.

The problem of the village and town library is a more difficult one in all counties that do not have the county library. The tendency too often is to burden the school with the library work of the town. Intelligent leadership is not sufficiently close to the community to determine the selection of the books and much finds its way into such a library that should receive no sanction from school authority.

The best the school can do is to

strengthen its own reference library under the guidance of the state library and not attempt to combine its work with a library whose function is to furnish books to the community that have but a passing interest.

The greatest problem of the three is, that of the rural school library. For many years additional books have been going to the rural schools of those states that have compulsory library laws and yet some districts have no more books now than they had ten or fifteen years ago. To prevent the scattering of books, the State department of education, in making its requirements for a standard rural school for 1917-1918, fixed as one of the requirements, that a rural school must have one hundred books listed for the elementary grades in its library. As hundreds of rural schools strive each year to become standard, the community will take such an interest in the disappearance of the books that some one will have the responsibility for an accounting each year. No school is standardized until the county superintendent checks up and certifies that the requirements have been met.

Many rural teachers, because of their inability to persuade their boards to purchase supplementary readers, have ordered these readers through the school library order and books for reference or circulation were overlooked. The fund was never intended to be used to purchase supplementary readers, but for building up permanent usable libraries. The plan proposed will help both these conditions.

The supervision of school libraries then should be centralized in the state library for the very reason that that department, on account of its expert knowledge, can give it intelligent direction and continuity in policy. The department of education throughout its entire school organization must give the fullest coöperation and support to those who supervise the library work of the state.

The state library must prepare the lists for both the elementary and the secondary school; must purchase all books at the lowest price from a cen-

tralized delivery; prepare all rules and regulations for standardizing the work.

In every county teachers' institute, one or more periods should be used to give instruction to teachers on the care and use of books.

All of the state schools in such courses as are offered for the preparation of teachers for the city, village, and rural school should require such a library course as will be adequate to the needs of the teacher in her work. In all the teachers' training courses in the high schools a brief course in library methods should be offered as a part of the work, that the prospective teacher may become impressed with the fact that the rural school library is not an adjunct to the school, but a vital factor in the school curriculum. Throughout all the school work of the state, elementary, secondary, and higher, there should be kept in mind the value of the school library as the greatest source of cultural and civic improvement, and that close coöperation with the state and city librarians is the duty of all for making library service most effective.

#### California school library association

A partial canvass of the state two years ago indicated that an association of school librarians would be welcomed in California, therefore an organization meeting was held in Oakland during the sessions of the N. E. A. of that year. The drawing power of San Francisco's wonderful exposition was such that not all who were really interested were present at the charter meeting, but the seven present adopted a constitution and gave the association its start. Today the membership is more than 60.

Librarians in charge of libraries of educational institutions in California are eligible to membership, paying dues of fifty cents a year. There is before the members at the present time an amendment to the constitution admitting associate members without power to vote. This seems likely to be adopted, as it is felt that much inspiration might be exchanged with teachers and

library workers, engaged in similar though not identical work.

Because of the large territory covered by California, the association is divided into two sections, a northern and a southern, each having its own presiding officer and secretary-treasurer. The president of the southern section is this year Miss Mignon Baker, of Riverside girls' high school, who is also president of the whole association. Next year, the president of the northern section will enjoy that honor. This alternation of the center of influence, it is hoped, will preserve the unity of the whole.

Meetings are held in conjunction with the state teachers' association and state library association, each section arranging its own and calling additional meetings, at will. An average of four have been held each year thus far. The attendance indicates an increasing interest on the part of public librarians and educators. A concrete expression of this was the passage of a law which became effective in July last, certifying school librarians as teachers.

Exhibits of library material and methods designed to aid the teacher, held during the sessions of the teachers' associations and institutes have drawn many interested and note-taking visitors.

The association has published a bulletin at intervals. Plans for the elaboration of this are under way for this year.

A report of the two meetings held in Los Angeles on Dec. 19 and 20 by the southern section, in conjunction with the teachers' association; and a description of the unusually interesting exhibit open during the entire week, will appear in a later issue of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Go back to the simple life, be contented with simple food, simple pleasures, simple clothes. Work hard, pray hard, play hard. Work, eat, recreate and sleep. Do it all courageously.

We have a victory to win.—Höover.

### News from the Field

#### East

An opinion from the Maine authorities has decided that the State librarian can not be given an extra allowance in addition to his salary for his work on the *Maine Library Bulletin*.

J. P. Morgan has given \$150,000 to the library of Trinity college, Hartford, Connecticut. The sum will be added to the fund of \$100,000 established by his father, the whole to be known as the J. Pierpont Morgan fund and to be used in the maintenance of the Williams memorial and of the library.

The report of the Boston Athenaeum library records a number of valuable and interesting gifts. Among these are files of early periodicals, private papers and correspondence of well known writers and publicists, as well as early and valuable editions of the classics. The pension fund of the institution amounts to about \$19,000. The number of volumes in the library is 272,670. During 1917, there were added 5469 photographs, engravings and maps.

#### Central Atlantic

Helen Sayer, Pratt '11, has been appointed assistant in the library of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Thomas P. Ayer, Illinois, 1913-14, resigned from the Library of Congress to become assistant librarian of the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D. C.

Helen Marjorie Beal, Pittsburgh, '14, has been appointed children's librarian at the Hazelwood branch, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

Sarah Hallsted, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '15, resigned as cataloger at the Lincoln library, Springfield, Ill., to become first assistant in the library of the National Bank of Commerce, New York city.

Elizabeth Wray, Pratt '03, who has been for some years in charge of the circulation department of the Montague branch of the Brooklyn public library, has accepted a position as librarian with Ivy Lee, who is in charge

of the publicity work for the Rockefeller Foundation.

The annual report of the Guernsey Memorial library at Norwich, N. Y., issued in condensed form, notes the war as well as usual activities. Epidemics interfered with story hours and circulation. The latter reached 42,850v., with 13,525v. on the shelves and 4,571 card holders. The need for a new building is emphasized.

A food-saving exhibit has been prepared by the Public library of Newark, N. J., at the request of the New Jersey Food administrative committee. The exhibit in a series shows comparative costs of the same amount of nourishment in different foods and the composition of certain food materials, by means of periodicals, posters, pictures, cartoons, etc. This exhibit will be moved around New Jersey, beginning at Passaic, and may be borrowed by any New Jersey library wishing to show it.

#### Central

Gladys Nichols, Illinois, 1914-15, has become librarian of the Public library, Dover, Ohio.

Flora B. Roberts has begun her new duties as librarian of the Public library at Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Harriet S. Dutcher, Pratt '13, has been made reference librarian of the Public library, Duluth, Minn.

Miss Eleanor Fawcett, librarian of the Public library at Oskaloosa, Ia., has resigned to join the staff of the Public library at Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Max Meisel, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '16, has gone to Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich., as assistant camp librarian.

Rachel Webb Haight, Drexel '11, was married recently to Charles Stockton Brewster. Her home is in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Elizabeth Laidlaw, Illinois, 1904-06, has joined the staff in the catalog department, University of Illinois library.

Mildred McElroy, Illinois, 1914-17, has resigned her position in the catalog department of the University of Illinois library. She enters the Ohio State library at Columbus.

The report of the Carnegie-Stout library, Dubuque, Iowa, for 1917 records a circulation of 124,638 with 53,254v. on the shelves and 9,251 card holders. Population, 41,795.

Miss Anna Kosek, for some time cataloger in the Public library, Cedar Rapids, Ia., has resigned to accept a similar position with the Lincoln library, Springfield, Ill.

Miss Martha Brown, formerly of the Public library, St. Joseph, Missouri, has joined the staff of the Indianapolis public library as supervisor of special extension.

Annette P. Ward, Pratt '04, reference librarian at Oberlin college, is in charge of the preparation of books for use at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio.

Helen H. Morgan, Pratt '15, who resigned from the Public library of Cincinnati some months ago, has accepted a position as cataloger at the Hispanic museum.

Jessie B. Weston, Illinois, 1913-14, has resigned from the staff of the University of Illinois library, to take charge of the apprentice class in the Milwaukee public library.

Ruth M. Willard, N. Y. State, '11-'12, resigned her position in the Minneapolis public library to become a member of the faculty of the Western Reserve library school.

Gertrude H. Andrews, formerly in Illinois State Normal university library, has become library organizer for the Illinois library commission. Miss Andrews is organizing the Public library at Warsaw, Ill.

The annual report of the Public library of Chillicothe, Ohio, records a circulation of 94,019v. Four new coun-

try branches were opened, making a total of nine for the county.

Eleanor M. Dye, N. Y. State, '11-12, has resigned as children's librarian of the Public library, Sandusky, Ohio, to accept a similar position at the Bowen branch of the Detroit public library.

The report of the Public library of Davenport, Ia., shows number of volumes added during the year, 5840. Books were added in Spanish, Swedish, Danish and German. The foreign-language circulation was 7601 out of a total of 256,142v. Total number of library cards in force is 13,620, about 27 per cent of the population. The school children, who are not registered for library cards but who use the library books, would raise the percentage to 50.

The annual report of the Public library of La Porte, Indiana, records the largest year's work in its history. The home circulation reached 59,127v. This is five per capita of the population. There are 22,295v. on the shelves. The library received a gift of a Catholic encyclopedia, 16v., from the Knights of Columbus. Sir Gilbert Parker and Professor W. M. Dixon of the University of Glasgow sent a large lot of material on the war.

#### South

Paul Blackwelder, for 12 years assistant librarian of St. Louis public library, has resigned and will go into business.

Dorothy Lyon, for the past seven years librarian of Public library, Little Rock, Ark., has resigned. Miss Lyon will be married soon to James M. Graves of Oberlin, O.

The annual report of the Public library of Charlotte, N. C., showed a circulation of 56,813v. Card holders, 7,685. Books on the shelves, 9,345. The library has coöperated in furnishing library privileges to Camp Green.

The annual report of the Cossitt library, Memphis, Tenn., records a circulation of 560,770v. through the main library and the nine branches and

schools of the city. Books on the shelves, 141,232. Card holders, 21,532.

The annual report of the Public library of Norfolk, Va., records a circulation of 83,817v. with 30,354v. on the shelves. Registered borrowers, 16,179. A number of valuable gifts were received during the year. This is the first report of Miss Mary B. Pretlow, the present librarian.

#### West

Jessie J. Glass, Illinois, 1916-17, has resigned from University of Nebraska library to become librarian of the High school of commerce, Omaha, Nebraska.

The annual report of the Public library at Salt Lake City, Utah, records the number of library agencies, as 32, number of staff, 23, number of volumes, 78,592, recorded use, 545,543v., number of registered borrowers, 29,035. The total income is \$62,539, expenditures, \$55,215.

#### Pacific Coast

Miss Clare Criswell has returned to the Tacoma public library after 11 months' absence.

Miss Evelyn Badger leaves the Public library of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to join the staff of the Library association of Portland, Ore.

Evelyn J. Badger, Pratt '16, assistant in the Public library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has accepted a position in the order department of the Public library at Portland, Oregon.

Jacqueline Noël, Pratt '13, reference assistant in the Public library at Tacoma, Washington, has gone as first assistant in the circulation department of the Portland (Oregon) public library.

A free county library was established for San Benito county in February and began its work on March 1. Miss Mabel Coulter is librarian. Miss Coulter is a graduate of the California State library school and has been first assistant of Kings County free library for some time.

W. F. Cloudsley, librarian emeritus of the Public library of Stockton, California, died November 17. Mr Cloudsley became librarian in 1883 and continued in service, except for an interim of two years, until July, 1917, when the Board made him librarian emeritus. Under his administration, the library grew from 4,698v. to 80,000v., with an annual circulation of 200,000v. The service of the library extended to the whole county, branches being opened in every section, with the resources of the large library as the reserve.

The report of the School department of the Public library of Portland, Oregon, is full of interest and signs of progress.

On the spur of the assertion by the Russell Sage Foundation that 95% of American business men are inefficient the library is doing its share to remedy the situation. Instruction in "How to study according to the library methods" was given to 54,969 children this year, an increase of over 25,000, and with much more satisfactory results.

Literature and language teachers have been organized for the examination of new books at the request of the superintendent and they have attended the courses given by Mrs Parsons, Mrs Thorne-Thomsen and the school librarian. The school collection numbers 58,818v. of which 44,143v. are in the different high schools. There were 20,766 pictures circulated from the department. The number of pupils using the schools was 29,187. The total circulation was 295,543v. Classroom libraries were issued as usual.

The work with the country schools has been the largest within three years. A certificate was offered to the pupils of the schools who read enough books to obtain 100 credits. There were 58 pupils enrolled.

#### Foreign

Tsing Hua, China, has just voted to adopt the Decimal classification and engaged an experienced librarian from Shanghai to put the new system into effect.

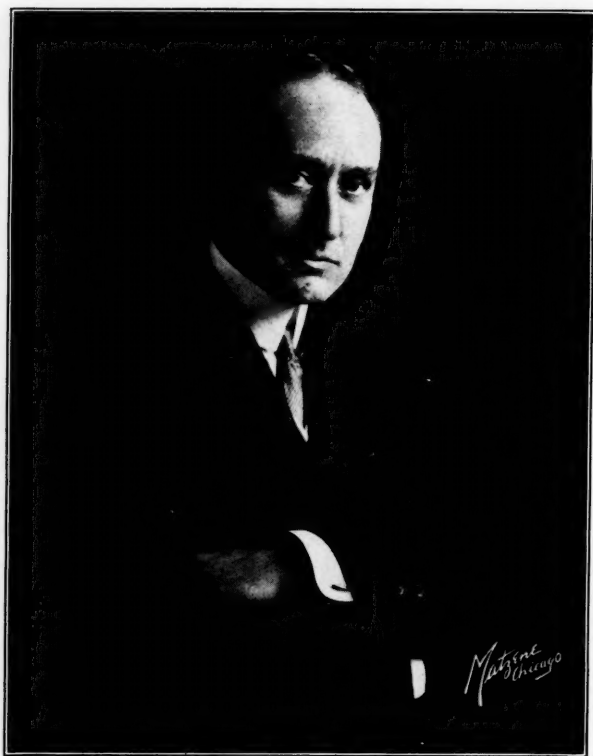
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Carl Bismarck Roden, librarian Chicago public library